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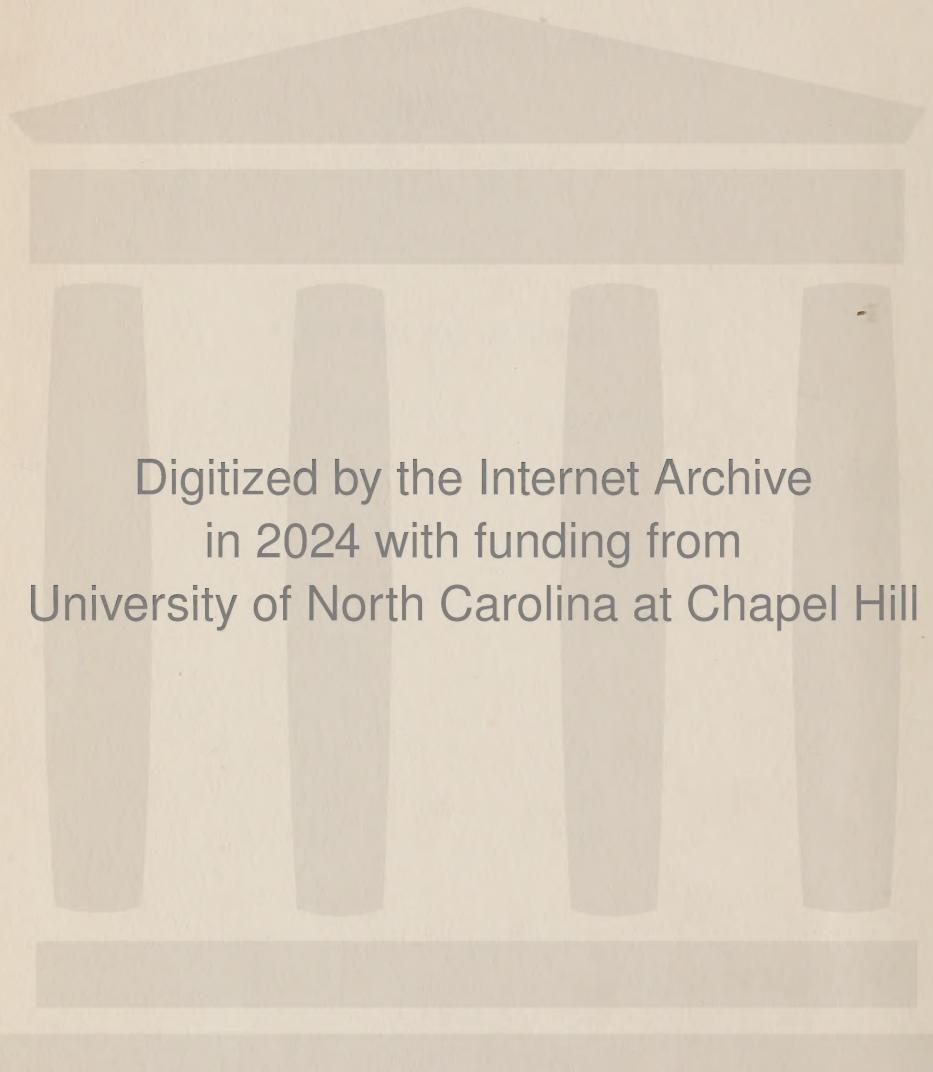


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History
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HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Offering of the Department of Finance in the
First Centennial of the Battle of Ayacucho

CARACAS
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TRANSLATION

OF THE

Historical Sketch of the Fiscal Life of Venezuela

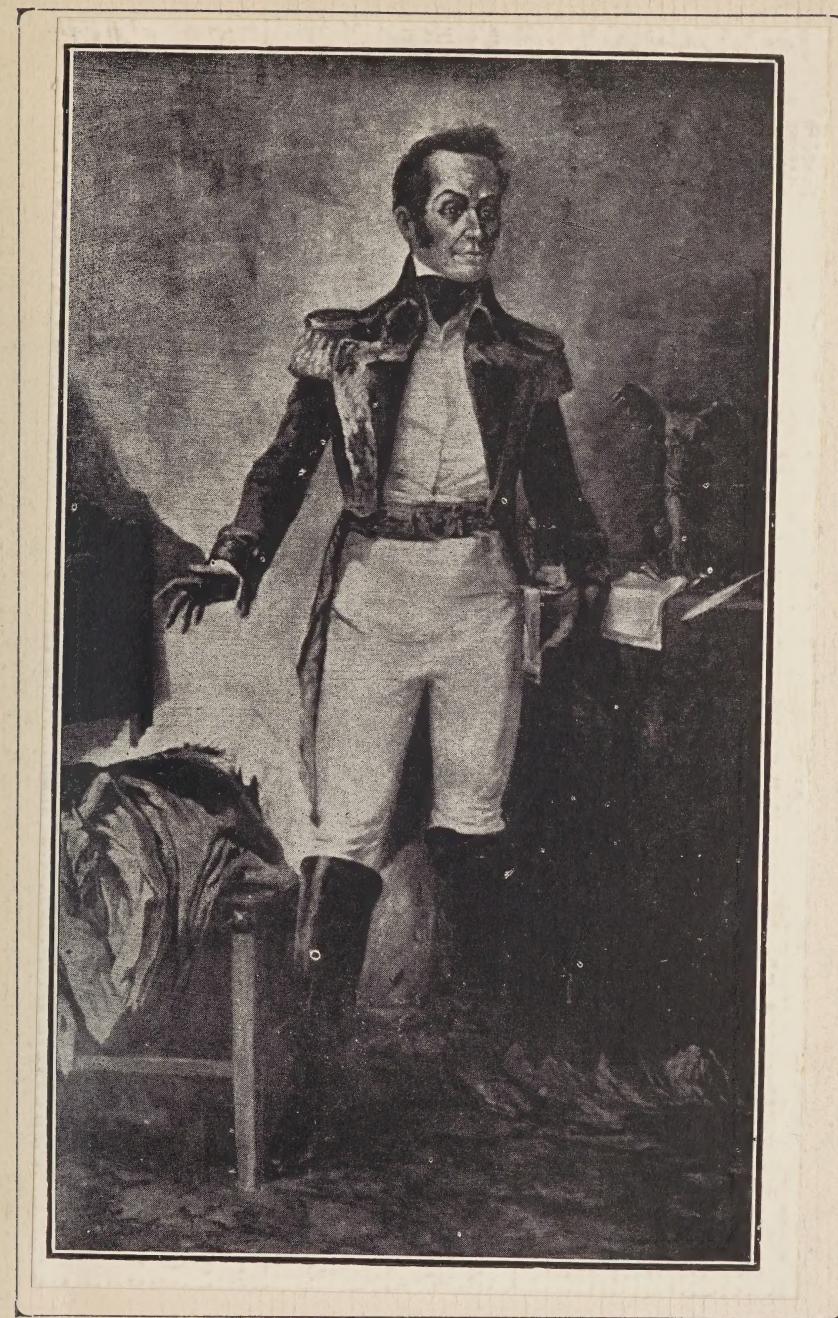
A publication by the Department of Finance of Venezuela
on the occasion of the First Centennial of the Battle of
Ayacucho, December 9, 1924.

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Picture of
SIMON BOLIVAR,

Liberator of five Republics, inaugurated on December 9, 1924

in the Reception Room of the Department of Finance,

(Arrangement by P. W. Hernandez).

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SIGNIFICATION OF THE BOOK

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THE OFFERING

When the Venezuelan Government decided to celebrate within its confines the centennial of the victory of Ayacucho, from its very inception it had in mind to demonstrate with facts beyond doubt the communion of interests connecting the present generation to that supremely vigorous one resplendent with Bolívar's unparalleled genius and Sucre's glory and peerless virtues.

Such is the purpose inspiring this volume and its context is the offering of the Department of the Federal Executive confided to our care.

The fact which links generations beyond ordinary circumstances of each national epoch, is the capacity to rise to the level of their duties at the moment of action. Different conditions demand precise abilities, but the trait which must be a permanent common characteristic without which nationality becomes impaired and finally dies, is the faith in the task in hand—the spirit of sacrifice for the ideal, the love to perform the duty which is required of us. This embraces every class of aptitude, as well as all the hierarchies throughout the generations and among men of one and the same generation. But each one has to be at his post, and if he occupies it with dignity and in good faith, he must feel that he participates in a measure in the common glory, and that he is not a stranger in the concert of the nationality.

The Government of General Juan Vicente Gomez has understood its duty toward the country and has complied therewith. It has a right to honor the founders of the fatherland because it does for it all that is noble and good, which is demanded by circumstances.

Those supermen created a Fatherland by their constancy, their foresight, and their energy, and they delivered it unto succeeding generations, so that they in turn might continue and extend it amidst a life of peace and culture, as they themselves had enlarged it with its glory and its fame.

And within a century a thousand events have occurred, inevitable perhaps, which placed the work of the Liberators in jeopardy. . . .

There was a moment when it might have seemed as though there would have to be demanded from the contemporary generations the sacrifice of an effort to save our independence comparable to that which was made by the generation whose star rose in 1810, and whose culminating point was reached in 1824.

It was a fortunate moment when General Gomez came into power, and with farseeing criterion fixed the course of salvation. He realized that anarchy and fiscal disorder are the two great evils amidst which the autonomy of incipient nations perishes. And it was necessary that we should not learn this lesson at our own cost.

General Gomez checked anarchy and put an end to fiscal disorder. These two great services rendered to the country aside from many others, are sufficient to establish his place in history.

It is not befitting for the Department of the Treasury to enter upon a narrative of the work of National Rehabilitation, with reference to the peace and order which have been established. But it concerns it, as a matter of duty—in the same manner that it submits each year to the Congress of the Republic the balance sheet of the Treasury—to exhibit to History in 1924

the balance sheet of the work begun, and crowned by the effort of General Gomez, in financial matters.

This balance sheet is set forth in the following pages by facts, documents and figures. It speak for itself with all eloquence.

Venezuela can lift up her eyes to the men who a century ago showed her to be capable of conquering an independent existence. She has responded to the faith which the creators of her nationality had in her, as well as the confidence of other nations, when they acknowledged and saluted her as a new power.

She has solved her problems by herself, she has overcome her crisis, she has withstood her dangers, producing from her midst the energies which her history and destiny demanded.

The Federal Executive, through the medium of the Department of the Treasury, proffers as its contingent in the Centennial of Ayacucho the review of its activities, useful and of interest at all times, even during those of anxiety, because of the lessons which they involve, and useful above all things as a powerful stimulant to future action.

In our long War of Independence there were crises, defeats, failures, and sacrifices, all saved in the end by the supreme effort and crowned by the victory of Ayacucho. Thus also it has happened in the Fiscal Life of Venezuela. Thus has victory crowned labor. Efforts and triumphs—that is what this offering makes evident.

THE CRITERION WHICH GUIDES US

It would involve a work of years and of many volumes to make an analytical review of the labors of the Department of the Treasury during the ninety-four years of its continuos existence since 1830, when Venezuela reassumed her autonomy, which in 1819, at Angostura, she had offered up for the birth

of Colombia at the fascinating call of Bolívar. Let it suffice now to condense this labor, first in a general historical and statistical review, by way of introduction, discriminating it in three sectional studies; viz.: - the *Fiscal Life of the Republic*, the *History of its Debt*, and the doctrinal and consulting activities of the *Inter-American High Commission*; and closing it with a complete and methodical bibliography of the Department.

Thus is the present volume constituted.

We have resisted an inclination, born of sentiments of profound justice, which is to set forth in detail the part which in the work of nearly a century of building-up, strengthening, defending and enriching of our Treasury, appertains to the worthy men who placed at its service good will, capacity for work, vision and patriotism. We have resisted this inclination, because in the hour of commemorating the centennial of Ayacucho, we regard the labor, as we have already stated, as a National Enterprise, where the individuals are absorbed in the solidarity of the effort. We will leave it to History to enter some day into these discriminations, and distribute the laurels. To-day we cannot and will not see anything other than the branch which in form of a wreath the Department of the Treasury deposits in the name of those worthy coworkers to the memory of the founders of the Independence, presided over by Bolívar and Sucre.

Moreover, to History we offer the material with which to work. Let it be permitted to hope that the historian may find in this book an auxiliary of primary force. Let it be permitted also, to believe with a certain amount of pride, that in this volume, rich in data that in truth and justice cannot be dispensed with, the Department of the Treasury presents the facts and places critical history in possession of the proofs. Such is the object of the Bibliography at the end, wherein is contained in essence, the *History of all branches of the Treasury*.

ry. This is, we believe, the first time that one of the Executive Departments has carried out a labor of this kind.

It will not be taken amiss, as we also believe, if in a mental review of the ninety-four years of life of the Venezuelan Treasury, we compare times, situations and efforts. We are proud of the epoch of Rehabilitation to which we have assisted, and in which it has been incumbent upon us at present to contribute our modest contingent as collaborators, full of faith in the grandeur of the work. Never was there such a shining example of the smooth running of the fiscal mechanism as in the epoch of Gomez. Never, even remotely, were our situation and our credit so solid. Never was there offered to our Treasury a prospect so assured and so brilliant. It would seem as if in that harmony, at times, occult, which rules the destinies of peoples, it was written that the National Rehabilitation should be the coronation of the century which separates us from the victory of Ayacucho, in order that it might symbolize the offering of the country to its immortal founders. And the name of General Gomez stands out by itself, because he is the author and the maintainer of all that wealth of satisfacción, of patriotic pride with which, thanks to his judgment, good sentiments and firmness, we can salute the first centennial of Ayacucho.

HISTORICAL REVIEW AND STATISTICS

The Government of General Juan Vicente Gomez found the Public Treasury in a sad state. Disturbances of the peace, political discontent, a delicate international situation which was threatening to reach a crisis, a general lack of confidence, and disorder in the administration had brought the income to a low ebb. Lack of discipline, and the introduction of untrained elements had undermined the efficiency of the fiscal personnel, even though here and there honest and expert public officials were to be found in the offices of the collection and administration of the various branches of the Treasury. In

view of the noticeable decrease in the income, and the distrust inspired by the demeanor of many employees, the sad recourse of farming out the various branches to the highest bidder had been resorted to under the supposition that private interest would be more careful in the selection of agents, and would be more vigilant and more efficient. Naturally in the presence of the statistics of tax collections, the bidders could not risk offering considerably larger sums, but rather,—playing safe, made their bids on the income of the various branches at prices, in truth ridiculous, and thereby realized at the cost of the Treasury, enormous and easy profits.

All the causes already stated likewise concurred in stimulating a factor which has always been of primary importance; viz.:— the smuggling which on a large scale was being carried on along the extensive and ill-guarded coasts of the Republic, if not through the very Customs Houses themselves.

It will be readily seen that too many circumstances contributed jointly in favoring the professional smuggler, as that he should not take advantage thereof, and that consequently the occasional smuggler naturally was produced and multiplied.

This factor was all the more important because the Treasury in fact depended on the import and other customs duties. The Customs Revenue from the foundation of the Republic had been the corner stone of the Treasury. It is true, that there were always some branches of internal revenue, but their influence was hardly felt, partly because of the imperfect methods employed in collecting such taxes, and finally also because there had been no systematic effort to free the Treasury from the fluctuations of commerce. In justice it must be recognised that Guzman Blanco had taken the first step by the creation of the Stamp Tax, the enlargement of the National Stamped Paper Tax and the Inheritance and Legacy Taxes. But neither he himself, nor his successors before Gomez, profit-

ed by the lessons that were to be learned from these first timid steps.

A man educated to work, methodical by habit, with a prudence inherent to his character, General Gomez began to put order into the administration, as he did into the general progress of the country. Carefully measuring every step, he put aside disturbing factors, by rescinding illegal and illegitimate contracts, by selecting the personnel, by abolishing disadvantageous practices. Little by little, without dangerous impacts, the State recovered the liberty of which it had been deprived by the system of farming out the collection of revenues; and assuming the administration of its resources, by a hitherto altogether unsuspected increase of the income, demonstrated that the public revenues could be administered by honest and conscientious employees.

All this was accomplished within the legitimate limits of the practices inherited from previous Governments. All that could be maintained of the established Fiscal System was adopted. Meanwhile the experience acquired in the daily strife with the ever varying circumstances in the life of a people; the love of the promising task which in the measure that its labors bore fruit, became ever more absorbing and exacting, induced General Gomez to take even more decisive steps, and to seek even more brilliant results. Thus there was outlined at first, and finally set forth in a precise form, the idea of carrying out a reform of the tax system, which emancipated the National Treasury from external commerce, and tied in the fiscal resources with the national life proper, with its own powers considered as of themselves, and in no manner subject to outside fluctuations and combinations.

General Gomez believed that the time had come to create an Internal Revenue capable of equalling by its amount the Customs Revenue, and to share with it the sustenance of the National Treasury.

A transcendental event, as unexpected as it was disturbing, came to show the deep penetration of that farsightedness and the need of applying it. The European War broke out in 1914, and growing in intensity, extended itself, taking in all the continents and the high seas, carrying disorganization and ruin to all countries. Our ports were left almost deserted. Of the belligerent flags, some abandoned our seas entirely; others spread out their visits more and more. Foreign Commerce languished, until it was but a shadow of what it had been. We had to fall back upon our own resources, had to improvise some industries and instead of being importers we became exporters of many products, with which we aided far-off peoples whose labor was engaged in the war.

The Customs revenue suffered a violent jolt and simultaneously with a formidable decline, ceased to inspire any confidence whatsoever. Treasury Reserves which had been providently accumulated, and were skilfully made use of permitted us to face the situation, and to overcome it without having to appeal to moratoriums of any kind. We continued to pay our Interior Budget, and to satisfy,—as though nothing has happened,—our foreign obligations. Out of this trial our credit came forth safe and unshaken. But the former fiscal system had been condemned, and the redeeming reform had been established.

By 1917 the details of the reform had been precisely defined, and Congress was requested to pass the necessary laws which had been initiated as early as 1915. By 1918 the Treasury Code, a hybrid compilation of diverse laws which had ruled the Treasury for a space of half a century, had ceased to exist. Unwieldy, from an ideological standpoint, without that unity which its title might lead one to hope for, the Treasury Code was a hindrance rather than an aid to a scientific organization of the service.

Its place was taken by four laws; The fundamental law, which is the Organic Law of the National Treasury (Ley

Orgánica de la Hacienda Nacional), The Customs Law, (Ley de Aduanas), The Organic Law of the Salt Deposits Revenue (Ley Organica de la Renta de Salinas) and the Law of National Stamped Paper (Ley de Papel Sellado Nacional). At the same time, other laws, which were not a part of the code, were also reformed, such as that of Public Credit (Crédito Público) of the Liquor, Cigarette and Stamp Taxes (Rentas de Licores, Cigarrillos y Estampillas), the Inheritance Tax (Impuesto sobre las Sucesiones) and other branches of the National Revenue. All of these reforms were inspired by the criterion of adaptation to the most modern methods, of profiting by experience, of clearness of expression, of supervigilance by means of a centralization of the Revenue that does not permit fraud.

The efficacy of these Reforms has been evinced by the results. Of the Internal Revenue it cannot be merely said that it has grown, but that is has made giant strides within a few years. It has equalled the Customs and Consular Revenues, and thereafter has surpassed them. In the fiscal year 1909-1910 the Customs Revenue was B 33.505.309,55, and the Internal Revenue was B 15.047.547,26.

In 1914-15: B 30.613.458,14 and B 19.985.022,37 respectively.

In 1919-20: B 54.465.839,84 and B 41.368.600,33 respectively.

In 1922-23: B 43.219.480,49 and B 44.471.839,23 respectively.

The former represents, for the past fiscal year, 49,30% of the Income, the latter 50,70%.

Nor has the Government of General Gomez by developing the Internal Revenues until obtaining the above noted splendid result, failed to attend, insofar as it merits, to the Customs and Consular Revenues. Neither has he endeavoured to merely increase it. Without overlooking this desideratum, and rather making it coincide with sentiments of justice and equity,

he has sought, by more tolerant and legal regulations to ameliorate the rigors of ancient legislation in the matter of errors and omissions on the part of importers against whom that legislation was very severe. In a systematic manner the Minister of the Treasury has shown himself amenable to the remitting of fines, provided always, that the good faith of those at fault was assured.

To the same end, there have been introduced gradual but progressive reforms in the Customs Tariff, not only in the substance thereof, but also in the form itself, which is to-day clearer and more reasonable, and which has fulfilled a need as protector of many national industries.

It is the Government of General Gomez that has introduced in the new Customs Tariff the system of *Ad-valorem* Tariffs, which enables us to arrive at a more just basis of taxation.

Likewise, there is due to it the introduction, subject to the discretion of the Federal Executive, of differential tariffs according to countries of origin. A recent reform of Article 16 of the Customs Tariff enables the Government to increase or reduce the import duties up to 25% in relation to the commercial treaties which may be covenanted. This is treading in new paths for Venezuela, which has always followed the system of equal treatment for all the various countries of origin. Thus far it is but an outline. The Government of General Gomez will make use of the faculty that has just been granted with that moderation and judgment of which it has given such brilliant proofs in the management of our international relations. But already the dire necessity was imposing itself upon us, of arming our Foreign Office with an instrument which in given cases would assure, success, to our re-vindications before the Governments of Powers with whom we maintain, or may come to maintain, mercantile relations of appreciable value. Modern competition, and the outlook upon a development to which

in a very near future our country will be called, demand a change of our old attitude in the matter of Commercial Treaties.

Another measure which merits special mention because of its transcendental influence in the development of the country, is the Decree issued by General Gomez on May 19, 1909, shortly after initiating his fruitful labors of administration, by which the export duties, which since 1903 were burdening coffee, cacao, and hides, were suppressed. As to this most important Decree, though it is true that the Public Treasury has thereby been deprived of an income of nearly one hundred million bolivars, the Government considers itself well compensated for the sacrifice made, in view of the resulting progress achieved by our leading industries.

Another glory of the Administration of General Gomez is the effective creation of the fiscal career. Due to the peace which he has founded, and which he maintains with energy and continuity of purpose; to the regularity which he has known how to impress upon all the branches of the Government, there has arisen a new tradition of competent and trustworthy employees. There is no special provision in our legislation regarding public employees. In conformity with an old constitucional precept of many decades standing and in accordance with our political traditions, the employees of the fiscal branch are freely subject to removal at the discretion of the President of the Republic. However, this ample faculty, which of old was exercised subject to the influences of favoritism, of political compromise, and even of social position, has been for General Gomez but a means to stimulate the zeal of the fiscal personnel. Thus there has been seen the rise of competent employees from the most humble posts, step by step, to the very highest places of greatest responsibility. Thus there are laid the foundations for a career with honor to democratic principles and evident advantage to the Treasury.

THE INTER-AMERICAN HIGH COMMISSION

A new link, and one of the greatest importance for the success of the reforms introduced in the branches which are related to the Treasury, is the Venezuelan Section of the Inter-American High Commission, called at first "Venezuelan Section of the International High Commission for Uniform Legislation".

Although born of an International Assembly, and destined to labors of a marked international character, the Commission, well-established and constituted, has come to be a powerful auxiliary of the Department of the Treasury. Presided over in person by the Minister, and composed of studious, well-meaning and experienced men, the Commission undertakes the examination of the questions proposed to it from a broadminded standpoint which guarantees the security, impartiality and prudence of its labors. The Department has at all times offered every facility for the fulfilment of its purposes, and has published its reports, even in cases where the personal opinion of the Minister has not coincided with the conclusions set forth.

The origin of the American Commissions of Uniform Legislation is due to the initiative of Mr. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, in bringing about the celebration in Washington of a Pan-American Conference of men versed in matters of Finance and Commerce. The Conference took place and recommended the creation of the High Commission, with Sections in each one of the American Republics. Venezuela named hers on August 31st, 1915, and from the first moment assigned to it a place of the greatest importance and consideration, installing it in the room formerly used for the meetings of the National Cabinet. To-day it has its seat in the Treasury Palace itself, where it occupies a special department.

BULLETIN OF THE DEPARTMENT

Such has been the labor of the Department during these latter years, a labor so greatly meriting more ample publicity, that the lack of its own organ of publicity was imperatively felt. To satisfy this demand, there was created in 1923 the Bulletin of the Department of the Treasury (Boletín del Ministerio de Hacienda) a monthly publication, wherein are recorded all the decrees and resolutions which are of interest in the fiscal life of the Nation; the results of the semi-annual bids and amortizations of our Debt Service; the statements of the payments of interest thereon; the resolutions regarding the application of the Stamp Law; decisions regarding consultations about the Customs appraisement of merchandise; the annual state of the Debt; and whatever may be of interest to commerce and to tax-papers in general. The mere enumeration of the matters covered clearly tells the importance of the Bulletin which stands in the foremost rank among the official publications of the Republic.

From its first number which appeared in July of 1923 it has carried an historical compilation of each of the Debt Issues of Venezuela, the totality of which will constitute a precious history of the National Credit. Twelve numbers have been published, which form the first volume, with a total of 164 pages. Of the second volume numbers 13 to 17 have appeared, corresponding to the months of July to November of the current year.

THE AUXILIARY BANK OF THE NATIONAL TREASURY

Another organism that has received the attention of the Government of General Gomez, because of the importance of the functions that devolve upon it in our fiscal régime, is the Bank of Venezuela. Although a private enterprise, by virtue

of the origin of its capital and by its constitution as a commercial corporation, the Bank is the immediate agent of the Treasury. This latter condition has above all its genuine significance under the Government of General Gomez. In former times, the Bank was not merely the agent of the Government, but its creditor. By reason of the contract which governs their mutual relations, the Government is entitled to a credit at the present date of twenty-four million bolivars. Former administrations made liberal use of this credit, and some even exhausted the same. The Bank would impose itself upon the government in its character of a creditor, or, if inclined to reject credit, was itself exposed to ruin and even bankruptcy. At times the shares of the Institute suffered tremendous depreciations.

General Gomez converted the Treasury from a debtor to a depositor. Not only has he not had to appeal for credit, but instead has accumulated in the vaults of the Bank, a gold reserve which to-day amounts to sixty-seven million bolivars. The Institution, having its safety guaranteed, has been enabled to extend its mercantile operations, to enlarge the radius of its activities, to double its capital, multiply its agencies, erect a magnificent building, and firmly resist the competition of the numerous foreign Banks, which, attracted by the progress of the Republic, have of late years invaded the formerly disdained field of our banking activities.

The shares of our principal Credit Institution have come to be quoted with a premium of 65%, and are currently maintaining themselves at this high rate.

The functions of the Bank of Venezuela as an auxiliary Bank of the National Treasury are of an exceptional character. The Bank, served by Venezuelans, formed with Venezuelan capital, and managed under Venezuelan methods, guarantees to the Nation a service unexposed to international complications in any case; it is a reliable ally and an exponent of our aptitude for governing and developing ourselves. The contract entered into between the Federal Executive and the Bank of Venezuela

la, and the latter's by-laws, inspired by a criterion of national foresight, impose inviolable regulations, to the end that the Institute, as an extension of the Government, as its immediate auxiliary, and as the depositary of the cash resources of the Republic, in no event can get out of Venezuelan hands. This support granted to the Bank of Venezuela, and the foresight wherewith General Gomez has placed it, and with it, the Republic, safely sheltered from any dangerous contingencies, will ever be one of the foremost grounds for national gratitude to him.

THE RESULTS

The fruit of this care for the public welfare, the result of well directed labor, which owes nothing to chance because it has had to contend rather with unpropitious events, is the economic and fiscal situation of Venezuela.

In spite of the disturbances due to a catastrophe hitherto unequalled, such as was the great European War, we have maintained our line of conduct, we have remained true to our obligations, jealous of our credit.

When an almost universal moratorium offered us its protection, and when the diminution of the Customs Revenues was in itself sufficient cause to have availed ourselves of measures, which under those circumstances would not affect our credit, we courageously faced the situation, and continued to pay the interest on our Debt as though the world were going along in its most normal epochs, and not as though it was being agitated from end to end by the most tremendous of conflagrations.

Thrown upon our own resources, the only flag which we hoisted in the midst of the war was that of honoring our pledged word. And we have honored it with perfect regularity. The Internal Budget was paid with scrupulous exactitude, and

all our foreign obligations were satisfied on the same lines along which they had been contracted.

Nor have we stopped there. The Government of General Gomez has not merely paid the Interest on the Public Debt. It has done something which the greatest optimist would not have dared to hope for. By means of opportune payments it has reduced even the capital itself of the Public Debt. Venezuela in that respect offers an unique example. Generally speaking, all countries have seen the indebtedness which is oppressing their Treasuries rise in fantastic proportions. The most fortunate, a very few only, have barely been able to maintain themselves stationary. Venezuela, on the other hand, has reducd her Debt in notable proportions. On January 1st, 1909, the total Public Debt of Venezuela amounted to B 210.307.281,68. By January 1st, 1924, it had been reduced to B 108.726.125,16. A reduction of B 101.581.156,52 in fifteen years, which represents 48,30% of the Public Debt. Let it be well noted that what is being dealt with are the Debts issued during different periods and for diverse reasons, but all comprised in the Law of Public Credit. The sums mentioned do not include other indebtednesses which were burdening the Treasury, and from which the Government of General Gomez has freed the country. To the cancelled obligations above mentioned there must be added B 8.204.534,98 for the conversion of other Debts being indebtednesses acknowledged for other respects; B 4.712.000,00 to extinguish the claim of the Puerto Cabello-Valencia Railway, B 3.000.000,00 in settlement of French claims, B 1.925.475,15 and B 1.542.065,25 with which the American claims known as the Chitchfield and Manoa claims were settled; besides other considerable amounts for administrative indebtednesses. Thus it will be seen that the reduction of the fiscal obligations is even greater than heretofore indicated.

And that work of liberation has been realized without prejudice to the development of the country, for whilst making

heavy disbursements in order to cancel Debts, others no less important were incurred in order to expand the net of public highways throughout the territory of the Republic and to satisfy the needs of the population, in the way of harbor improvements, buildings, aqueducts, and other public works of a productive, ornate, cultural and recreative character.

On a line therewith and to fill the measure of the effort to the very brim, there has been growing, year by year, a gold reserve fund, accumulated in the vaults of the Bank of Venezuela.

With the Treasury thus placed on a sound basis, with a gold reserve on hand, greater than the Outlay Budget for any single year; with a minimum public Debt per inhabitant; with an immediate credit at its disposal in the Bank of Venezuela of B 24.000.000 and with ample prospects of an Internal and External Credit to which recourse might be had at any time if it were desired, Venezuela occupies an exceptional situation and therefore it is not surprising that the bolivar is quoted among the best standards of value of the world, at times having reached the foremost place of all, including even the dollar and the pound sterling.

Our Gold Standard, which we have been able to maintain, because of National Traditions, in spite of innumerable vicissitudes is to-day more solidly established than ever. Our economic independence is based on sound conditions, upon the prudence and patriotic foresight of our Government, on the National conviction which repels all hankering after adventure, and which has learned to confide the solution of its problems to Peace and Labor, the two great sources of confidence and economic prosperity; that watch-word which General Gomez inscribed on his political banner of reconstruction and which he has triumphantly carried through all contingencies.

M. CENTENO GRAÜ.

Caracas, December 9, 1924.



Picture of
ANTONIO JOSE DE SUCRE,

Grand Marshal of Ayacucho, inaugurated on December 9, 1924
in the Reception Room of the Department of Finance.

(Original by Arturo Michelena. - Copy by P. W. Hernandez).

FISCAL ORGANIZATION

The fire of the great battles which decided the crusade for independence had scarcely been extinguished when the second part of that labor ascribed to those supermen began with the building up of the new Republics' administration structure upon the ruins of the Colony.

The Public Exchequer was naturally one of the branches of public administration which was the most difficult to organize. The organization which was put in practice by the founders of the fatherland in 1811 disappeared when the colonial reaction took place in 1812 and there remained only in force the following democratic principles which had been proclaimed; viz.: - "No subsidy, excise, duty, tax or contribution may be enforced or collected under no pretext whatsoever without the people's consent expressed by means of its representatives. All contributions have as aim the general benefit and all citizens have the right to watch the former's investment and demand an account thereof through their aforesaid representatives".

The legislators of Greater Colombia with admirable good sense did not try to adopt exotic practices or discard the old ones but kept in force certain fundamental elements of the old régime to build upon them the new one, and due to the politic transformation which had taken place and the agitation of republican ideas, suppressed or modified whatever was opposed to equality or an impediment to economic development.

It is considered appropriate to make here a brief sketch

of the general outlines of the organization structure of colonial finances, following Dépons' remarkable review thereof.

The supreme administration of the colonial revenue was at first intrusted to the Captain General and later to the Intendant, and had authority throughout the Captaincy General and the management of the public revenue of its jurisdiction was placed in charge of special Governors bearing the title of Delegates of the Intendant.

The latter's duties were very vast having among other important attributions those of enacting regulations, directing all disbursements, being in charge of everything pertaining employees and having to pass sentence on litigations, taking into consideration the judgment delivered by the legal adviser of the Royal Exchequer although not compelled to follow the latter's opinion. The Intendant was Chairman *ex officio* of the General Assembly of the Consulate and Judge of Appeal of the former's judgments.

The Court of Accounts was formed by two Superior Accountants who revised and controlled the Custom House accounts and those of the receivers; and the Superior Tax Assembly took cognizance in appeal of the judgments of the Court of Accounts and of the Intendant. This Superior Assembly consisted of the Intendant who was its Chairman, of the Regent of the Audience, of the Fiscal of Revenue, of the dean Accountant and of the dean Treasurer. The members of the Assembly who had passed a sentence did not participate in the meeting and were replaced by their immediate subordinates, and when the judgment appealed had been decreed by the Intendant the Assembly was presided over by the Regent of the Audience.

Of the long and detailed list of colonial taxes given by the mentioned author are taken to give an idea thereof those

described hereinafter. The papal bulls, taxes of the clergy and other ingenious excise taxes which likewise existed are not interesting for this statement.

Excise Dues.—This tax was caused by all sales of personal and real estate. It amounted to five per centum on the value of the transaction and was rigorously demanded on each sale or resale. Merchants having an open store paid five per centum on their yearly sales. The sea excise was a due of four per centum on all goods arriving at ports or which were shipped therefrom.

An ancient import and export duty called Almojarifazgo was collected on goods imported and exported. Different tariffs were enforced according to the ports and goods varying from two to fifteen per centum.

Navy and fleet dues.—A tax collected to maintain the fleet protecting the coast against pirates and which was payable at the sea custom houses.

Consulate and damage dues.—A fee likewise paid at the custom houses applied to pay the employees of the consulate and the balance to develop agriculture and commerce.

Tafias dues.—A fee of one hard dollar payable by distillers per barrel of sugar cane rum containing one quintal of the product.

Lake custom house dues.—A small fee collected at the Maracaibo lake.

Grocery store dues.—Patent or permit to carry on the industry granted on paying a yearly sum independent of the excise dues. It appears that it was imposed by appraisement of the liquor sale.

Composition or confirmation of land dues.—These were caused by land concessions and confirmation of land rights.

Land leases dues.—Was the product of the lease of lands belonging to the king.

Lanzas dues.—Was a duty formerly paid by the nobility for titles conferred by the king.

Half anatas dues.—Was a duty paid on beginning to discharge a position and consisted of one half the yearly product of said position.

Royal novenas dues.—A part of the ten per centum duty of the clergy belonging to the king according to how at the time it was distributed.

Indian dues.—Per capita dues imposed on indians from 18 to 50 years of age.

Mercenary charges dues.—Were the product of the sale of positions in chapters of churches or municipalities excepting those of the two mayors who were elected every year.

Stamped paper dues.—This paper was of four classes. The first class was used for titles and mercies, the second for contracts and other notary acts, the third for everything implying justice and the fourth for official dispatches and requests submitted by poor people and by indians.

The fifth on mime dues.—A tax on exploitation of mines.

Salt works dues.—A tax of one hard dollar on every quintal of salt of the Eastern Salt Deposits.

The king's tithe dues.—The clerical tithes of Guayana and Cumaná belonging to the king.

Cruise dues.—A duty paid on entering or leaving a sea port, applied to maintain the ships to pursue smugglers.

Guarapo and rooster fights dues.—A duty on the sale of fermented sugar cane liquor and rooster fights. The product of these two dues was devoted to support the Saint Lazaro Hospital of Caracas.

Vacant inheritances dues.—A fee on the inheritances of those who died without making a will and had no known relatives.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Exclusive sale of tobacco dues.—This was the most productive excise due. All who had tobacco were compelled to deposit it in the Royal warehouses where it was sold at very low prices and the product could only be sold in the Government monopoly offices.

The Republic transformed the ancient import and export dues called Almojarifazgo and other taxes paid by goods imported into or exported from sea ports and converted them into import and export duties. Instead of a tariff applied as dues on tafia guarapo and grocery stores duties were imposed on the distillation and sale of sugar cane liquor; the excise dues were reduced and to some home products were not applied; the tobacco monopoly was regulated so as to attain its complete extinction; the General Accounting Office composed of five members was established in a manner similar to the Senior Accountant's Office of the Colony, and with other measures equally important the new fiscal organism was framed.

The basis of the fiscal organization of Venezuela was established by the Constituent Congress of Valencia, following the trails of the Legislators of Greater Colombia and due to the prudent measures adopted by that assembly and by those immediately following, the country enjoyed some years of a relative fiscal normality and the consolidation of its credit.

After those first years the changes occurring in the direction of public destinies frequently due to internal discord, determined in financial matters successive experiments of systems and regulations devoid of the proper plan which did not succeed in giving the Republic prosperity and stability to her finances in spite of the good purposes with which on some occasions they were inspired.

Until the first decade of the twentieth century our finances suffered from lack of scientific organization because they were based upon traditional experimental habits and defective practices which were the result of an epoch abetting the convulsions of political parties. Lacking a body of laws enacted according to principles which are now applied to such a complicated matter; guided by customs maintaining in force obsolete systems, some of which were reminiscent of the Royal Colonial Exchequer, they were a constant hindrance to the development of the country's management and an obstacle to the consolidation of the internal and external credit.

The only important source of income of the Public Exchequer was the Customs Revenue and even in its organization which due to this fact had received greater attention and had been vastly supplied with regulations, however fundamental principles of financial technique were transgressed in clear detriment of the receipts it should logically produce.

The Internal Revenues were scarcely taken into consideration in the National Budget due to their small production and eventual collection. These Revenues whose productive vitality has been now brilliantly demonstrated were relegated to a perfectly secondary role, for which reason the majority of them were in need of special organic laws and some were ruled by rudimentary laws of little or no efficiency whatsoever.

The service of the Treasury was the one showing the greatest need of a methodical organization in accordance with its importance and which due to its complexity constitutes sufficient cause in some countries to establish a special Department. The bulk of the treasure was divided into sections with its corresponding Treasury Offices according to the obsolete system of special amounts set aside for stated branches; the revenue liquidation and collection were confounded in the

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

same office; there were no efficient means to effect collections and payments wherever required and briefly stated many objectionable practices were in force in the management of public funds which it was imperative to suppress.

It is not to be found strange therefore that under such conditions the Treasury should have been too frequently reduced to seriously embarrassed positions; that Treasury bonds had to be issued to cover Budget deficiencies; that vouchers for the payment of legitimate liabilities remained without being duly settled; that funds belonging to one branch should be applied to pay another one, and that it should have been even necessary to appeal to other means all equally irregular to attend unavoidable needs of the public administration which at times became imperative.

The National Estate after a praiseworthy attempt at organizing it made in 1877 had again been greatly abandoned and even to such an extent that titles of some estates acquired by the nation under burdensome conditions appeared omitted and possession had not been taken of others which by virtue of civil or fiscal laws had become national property.

And lastly the Public Credit lacked the proper legislation. The Debts being ruled during a long time by deficient laws, sometimes without uniformity or connection and those of a general character enacted later besides being imperfect included provisions which were contrary to the proper principles and the good credit of the nation, as for instance the one which ascribed the liquor revenue to the Internal Debt.

The National Rehabilitation saw that it was not with experimental plans and irresolute attempts but by applying scientific standards of financial administration and making use of a firm purpose that the National Estate may be managed and maintained in a regular and prosperous condition, and undertook the task of organizing it in all its branches.

At present everything pertaining to the fiscal part of the country's administration is ruled by laws and regulations adopted in accordance with the great modern principles which establish in a clear and precise manner, although leaving sufficient margin for the Executive's acts, the precepts ruling the most insignificant details of such action.

The Organic Law of the Public Exchequer establishes the fundamental principles for the management of our finances and enacts: the powers of the Federal Executive as Supreme Director and Manager of the Exchequer; the prerogatives of the Minister of Finance as immediate Manager of said National Exchequer; the rules for the framing and carrying into detailed execution of the Budget; the regulations regarding the liquidation of the revenue, its collection and its safe keeping; the responsibility of financial employees; the privileges of the fisc; the examination and auditing of the accounts at the General Auditor's Office; fiscal penalties; the Finance Courts and their legal procedure; the inspection and auditing of accounts and whatever rules may be conducive to settle matters lacking a special proceeding and those necessary to maintain order, vigilance and the activity of all branches.

Having abolished the system of sums set aside to cover the needs of each branch, the revenue which during a long time had been ascribed to certain services of the Public Administration was destined to form a part of the common bulk of the National Treasury. The amounts set aside were a source of continual complications for their auditing and subverted the uniformity of the Treasury accounts making necessary repeated and useless transcripts and transfer entries in the books in order to distribute receipts and expenditure among the respective sections, made difficult the financial liquidation and

liable to frequent mistakes and abuse, and after all they generally had no practical importance because of the fact that the needs and conveniences of the public administration did not take them into consideration and made them become mere fictions.

In accordance with the principles adopted in our finances of separating the liquidation and collecting offices, there are now at all those places where required by the mechanism of the administration on the one part managing offices having charge of collecting and liquidating the fiscal duties and on the other agencies of the National Treasury for the purpose of collecting the revenue, many of which act also as offices of the National branches of the service. This separation of functions has among other advantages: the division of labor which makes easier and more efficient the administration work, the clearness in the outcome of both operations, the control between offices discharging different functions and the exact final verification obtained on confronting the result of one and the other function.

Our Treasury service is equal in its structure to that of the most advanced countries. All revenue is considered as a unit making up the bulk of the Treasure in the central and sole office of the Government called National Treasury but the material service is carried out through this office and the Bank of Venezuela, both having the custody and responsibility of the national funds. In connection with the National Treasury there also exist the Agencies of the Treasury and the Receiving Offices of the Liquor Revenue, the latter only to effect the collection of the revenue of said branch.

In accordance with a contract entered into on June 7, 1920 between the National Government and the Bank of Venezuela the latter institution was constituted as Auxiliary Bank and Agent of the National Treasury according to the

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

following main stipulations; viz.: - the bank carries out the operations of collecting and disbursing funds for the Government's account centralizing them in an account called "National Government" which is kept in a special department of the bank devoted to that purpose; the Minister of Finance may send to the bank an employee of the General Auditor's Office to examine the books, documents and records of said accounts and make the necessary remarks; the bank sends daily to the Minister a provisional report concerning the receipts, disbursements and balance existing of national funds, every fifteen days the report on the receipts and disbursements corresponding to every office expressing therein the branches of receipts and expenditure and the days on which the transactions were effected; and sixty days after the expiration of every month, the monthly statement of the account with the National Government; the receipts and disbursements effected abroad are made known to the Minister in monthly reports, specifying the place, date, person who paid or received sums for the National Government's account, the sum in foreign currency, the rate of exchange of the day, the parity of value in bolivars, the number and date of the voucher of payment and the Executive Departments to which the expenditures correspond. The bank has charge of procuring the regularity of the currency in the country according to the gold standard and to this effect imparts to the Department the remarks it believes suitable and suggests the means it considers convenient. The bank by virtue of the fiscal service it discharges enjoys the franchises and prerogatives which are necessary for the best fulfilment of its duty and due to the official status with which it is endowed its members, stock and functions are subject to special regulations.

With reference to the National Estate there are now in force precise and unavoidable rules for its acquisition and rent,

so that at any moment the condition of this portion of the national wealth may be precisely stated. The regulations now in force establish exactly what is considered National Estate; what are the rules established for its management as well as for those belonging to the Federal States which are managed by the Federal Executive; the necessary distribution of the National Estate for the purpose of its administration by the different Executive Departments according to the needs of each branch and the nature of the Estate; the centralizing in the General Exchequer Auditor's Office of all the data regarding the acquirement, value, titles and condition of said Estate; the manner to acquire and dispose of it; the exemption of taxes or liens which it enjoys; the power which may be granted to the lessees of National Estate and everything related to the denunciation or replevying of the estates, right or shares belonging to the Nation which are hidden or unknown or which on account of circumstances may be in fact unduly possessed or performed by third parties.

And with reference to the financial reckoning it is a well known fact that for the efficient administration of the National Exchequer a competent accounting is essential, that is to say a computation not restricted to inscribe representative figures of revenue and expenditure but which discriminates, obeys and enforces the general rules of adjustment, collection and investment of national funds and exhibits the result of the operations involved therein, in such a manner that the financial condition of the State and the legal responsibility of those who intervened in said transactions may be clearly defined. Due to the nonobservance of this principle, the accounting in past epochs could not be available as a guidance to the Manager of the National Exchequer nor help as an illustration to make known to the country how its interests were conducted.

The Organic Law of the National Exchequer sets forth

in a precise manner the rules which establish the duties of the offices managing revenue and of those authorizing disbursements. Besides these two orders of offices whose functions constitute in fact the administration of the National Exchequer, we have the Treasury service which makes effective the revenue and expenditure authorized by the competent officials of the managing and disbursing offices. The revenue accounting and that of expenditure of these offices on entering the real result of their liquidation transactions, has to be the same as the entries of the Treasury accounting which is the confirming consequence of the work of the liquidation offices.

The mechanism which has here been briefly outlined puts the General Auditor's Office of Finance, where the accounts of one and the other offices are sent to be audited and centralized, in a position to confront in a perfect manner the transactions carried out by the managing offices of the Treasury.

CUSTOM HOUSE REVENUE

This revenue which is one of the most ancient and universal, was in our country as already stated the only source from which for a long time the Public Exchequer derived any revenue worthy of being taken into consideration and when on account of the great development attained by the Internal Revenue in latter years although it has sometimes surpassed it, nevertheless the former has not lost for the National Treasury its condition of a very important factor of revenue.

On account of this fact the management of this revenue although having many precepts at its disposal lacked for a long time financial technique but at present is ruled by a body of regulations based upon principles of indubitable efficiency and

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

nearly all grouped in the two fundamental laws of the branch; viz.: - the Custom House and Tariff Laws.

The Custom House Law enacts the rules for our foreign and domestic commerce, that is, the introduction of foreign goods through the ports and boundaries of the Republic, the exportation of domestic products, the maritime transit, the traffic of foreign and domestic goods between the different ports of our coast and fluvial routes and also the proceedings in shipwreck matters, stress arrivals and ships placed under the Venezuelan flag.

This law embodies in all its details the different formalities which must be performed in the traffic of goods in our Custom Houses, the organization of custom offices, the functions and duties of the employees of these offices, the penalties for the infraction of the laws and the recourse which in the different cases of their application the mulcted person may invoke to defend his interests in case of error on the part of the fiscal officials or because there may be circumstances which may be in his favor.

The Tariff based principally upon a fiscal criterion takes into consideration however the protection due to our incipient industries by that powerful instrument of the Public Administration. In it the system of the single tariff has been principally adopted because it has not been considered as yet convenient to resort to the differential tariffs which are the battling resources in the economic strife in which are engaged other Nations, but our law has a provision which empowers the Federal Executive to increase up to 25% the import duties on goods introduced from foreign countries which in their treaties with Venezuela have not included the most favored nation clause.

Our law likewise provides that if by virtue of special conventions of mutual favors, foreign countries should grant,

in exchange of reciprocal concessions the power which is allowed to decrease the import duties in as much as they may affect said origin, shall be exercised with submission to what is stipulated in the treaties, but establishing as a basis for the Government of the Republic that the decrease shall not exceed the 25% of the prefixed duties.

In the same manner the Federal Executive is empowered to increase, decrease and suppress appraisement rates when it has justified reasons therefor and to establish that of goods not specified in the law.

The import duties are computed on the gross weight which is the most generally adopted system; the kilogram paying according to the tariff classification which is applied to the goods; thus:

First Class: (Bs. 0,05) Five centimes of a bolivar.

Second Class: (Bs. 0,10) Ten centimes of a bolivar.

Third Class: (Bs. 0,25) Twenty-five centimes of a bolivar.

Fourth Class: (Bs. 0,75) Seventy-five centimes of a bolivar.

Fifth Class: (Bs. 1,25) One bolivar and twenty-five centimes of a bolivar.

Sixth Class: (Bs. 2,50) Two bolivars and fifty centimes of a bolivar.

Seventh Class: (Bs. 5) Five bolivars.

Eighth Class: (Bs. 10) Ten bolivars.

Nineth Class (Bs. 20) Twenty bolivars.

Many and varied products are introduced duty free, the majority being articles for agricultural purposes, industries and for the Board of Health; and the following products are not allowed to be imported; viz.: - impure acetic acid, apparatus for coining money, war material, copper, nickel or silver currency, paper for cigarettes, matches, prepared opium, absinthe,

saccharine and similar products, which may solely be imported with a permit of the Director of the Board of Health paying in that case fifth class, sea salt and rock salt and tomatoe sauce in metallic cans.

In the tariff the goods form thirteen groups; viz.:-

Animal Materials.

I.—Animal spoils and products.—a) *Food products.*—
b) *Industrial.*—II.—Handiworks and manufactures.—a)
Leather goods.—b) *Sundry.*

Vegetable Materials.

I.—Plants and seeds.—II.—Vegetable products.— a)
Food Products.—b) *Industrial.*—III.—Woods, wood handiwork and wood handiwork with other material.—IV.—India rubber and its manufactures.—V.—Handiwork and manufactures of various vegetable materials.—VI.—Stationery.—
a) *Cardboard and Paper.*—b) *Handiwork and manufactures.*

Mineral Materials.

I.—Metals.—a) *Gold, silver, platinum, and its manufactures.*— b) *Copper, its alloys and manufactures.*—c)
Aluminum, tin, nickel, lead, zinc and its manufactures.—d)
Steel, iron and its manufactures.—e) *Building material and for industries.*—f) *Sundry.*—II.—Various Minerals and their derivatives.—a) *Stones, earths, mineral substances and products.*—b) *Handiwork and manufactures.*— III.—*Crystal, glass, crockery, procelain and their manufactures.*

Textiles.

I.—Raw Materials.— II. — Spun materials.— III.— Fabrics in the piece without being made up.—a) *Pure and mixed silk tissues.*—b) *Pure and mixed woollen tissues.*—c) *Pure and mixed linen and ramie tissues.*—d) *Pure cotton tissues.*—e) *Tissues of hemp, jute and similar fibres.*—f) *Felt.*—g) *Tissues of various materials or mixed and those not included in foregoing sections.*—IV.—Manufactures.

Chemical products, medicines and pharmaceutical articles.

Beverages.

Perfumery.

Hats. (Head-wear).

Mechanisms, instruments and machinery.

Vehicles and accessories.

Furniture.

Arms, hunting articles and explosives.

Sundry.

SEA SALT REVENUE

The salt revenue consists of a tax of twenty-five centimes of a bolivar on each kilogram of salt for whatever purpose it may be used; of the product of the remuneration collected by the Treasury due to the industrial operations and services performed by the National Government in the direct exploitation of the salt deposits and which it collects according to established tariffs; of the product of the remunerations received by the Treasury to reimburse the expenditure caused in the service of the salt deposits which is likewise collected according to a tariff; of the product of the salt sales destined to be exported by National Government, and of the product of the

fines imposed due to infractions of the laws and regulations of the branch.

The Federal Executive has power to reduce the tax to ten centimes of a bolivar per kilogram when used to cure fish and meats or raw hides which are exported by the established firms possessing their own plants for this kind of industry.

The organization of the revenue is complex because there are national salt deposits exploited directly by the Government and salt deposits exploited by private persons having a special permit from the Federal Executive. In one or the other case the Executive decides which are the salt deposits which may be exploited.

There are independent administrations for everything related to the management of this branch within the districts which have been ascribed to them and the Guard Stations to watch and superintend the service of the revenue as well in the salt deposits which are being exploited as in those which are not in activity.

Salt for exportation is sold at conventional prices previously offered by interested parties to the Minister of Finance giving the following information:-

First.—Number of kilograms net of salt they need.

Second.—Salt pits or deposits where the salt is to be delivered.

Third.—The price offered per kilogram.

Fourth.—The kind of packing in which the salt is to be transported.

Fifth.—Class and nationality of the ship in which the shipment is going to be made.

Sixth.—Foreign Custom House of destination.

Seventh.—Indication of the authorized port wherefrom the ship is to be cleared to sail abroad.

The detailed rules governing salt employed for fisheries, reconciles the two fundamental points which have to be borne in mind in this matter; on the one hand the fixing of a reasonable tax and facilities allowing the existence and development of the salting operations, and on the other hand, the assurance that the salt shall not be used for other purposes.

LIQUOR REVENUE

The tax on liquor adopted from the beginning in our fiscal system forms now the liquor revenue which is one of the most developed due to reforms brought about in the Administration of the Public Exchequer.

The revenue consists of: the tax on domestic liquor obtained by distilling fermented saccharine liquids, which tax amounts to Bs. 0,45 on every liter of liquor whose alcoholic strength does not exceed fifty centessimal degrees, besides Bs. 0,01 for every degree exceeding fifty; the internal revenue on liquors imported which is collected according to the class of liquor at the rate of Bs. 1,25, Bs. 1,50 and Bs. 2,50 on every liter, the first group comprising spirits and rum, the second gin, bitters and similar kinds and the third, brandy and the like, being all limited to an alcoholic strength not exceeding fifty centessimal degrees and collecting for every degree in excess of this limit the proportional tax; the amount of Bs. 0,15 is collected as tax on every liter of domestic beer and Bs. 0,30 on beer imported from abroad and the patents imposed on those rectifying and on distributers by the wholesale. Denaturalized alcohols as also alcoholic liquors and beer of domestic production which may be exported are exempted from paying the tax.

The tax on alcoholic liquors and domestic beer is not collected but when the products are taken out of the establishment where they are produced to be sold, but it is caused as

soon as they are manufactured and for its security a fiscal watchfulness is kept on the buildings, machinery, output and circulation of the product according to the special provisions of the law and the faults and frauds are punished with fines and the seizure of the goods.

The tax on imported alcoholic liquors and beer is settled at the Custom House where they are imported and in the other cases at special offices of this revenue. The collection is effected through the Treasury Offices.

The peculiar condition of the industries included in the scope of these products subject to be taxed have demanded a special organization of the Liquor Revenue which however does not collide with the principles adopted for our fiscal management. Said organization consists of independent administrations with determined jurisdictions in portions of more or less extension within the Venezuelan territory; the district of each Administration is divided in so many Agencies as required for the good management of the branch. In the subdivision which corresponds to the managing office the latter acts likewise as an agency. As a needful help each Agency has a Guard Office composed of Officers and watchmen who have charge of the custody of the stills, of the circulation and of the suburbs.

Although our fiscal organization adopts the system of making easy as a general rule and uniform by means of instructions and models the fulfilment of the duties of each official and office, it is in the branch of liquors where this has required a larger extension and perhaps also where its practical importance has been better appreciated.

CIGARETTE REVENUE

The old tobacco tax which has undergone so many changes since the colonial days, is now collected only on cigarettes and consists in the payment of one centime of bolivar on every cigarette of cut tobacco manufactured in Venezuela and of seven bolivars for every kilogram of gross weight of cigarettes which are imported from abroad.

The tax on domestic cigarettes is collected by means of the paper with which they are manufactured which bears an official stamp and is exclusively made for the National Government. The tax on imported cigarettes is settled at the Custom House where they are imported.

When the domestic cigarette is exported, the exporters have the right to the draw back of the value of the tax which may have been paid, provided that they comply with the formalities established for this purpose and discounting in favor of the National Government the value of the paper reckoned at cost price; a discount which is made because in the price of one centime of bolivar stamped on each cigarette the tax and cost of the paper is included.

To insure the payment of the tax special formalities have been established in regard to the cigarette industry, to the established factories or those which may be established to carry on the cigarette industry for the account and destination of factories having a licence, the manufacture of cut tobacco, the manufacture of mechanisms or machinery to make cigarettes or cut tobacco and the fact of possessing mechanisms or machinery of this class; the law prescribes the size and form in which domestic cigarettes may be offered for sale, the formalities to be fulfilled by importers, the corresponding penalties and the submission of every establishment or place devoted to the cigarette industry or to the manufacture of cut tobacco and all

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

transportation or commerce of these products to the fiscal supervision, inspection and verification which may be necessary by competent employees.

In conformity with the principles governing our Exchequer, the organization of the cigarette revenue consists of a central office called General Administration in Caracas and the Managing Agencies which may be necessary in the interior of the country. The settlement of the tax is effected through these managing offices and in the Custom Houses in the case of imported cigarettes and in the Offices of the Treasury the collection is made.

STAMP REVENUE. - STAMPED PAPER REVENUE

Under the name of Stamp Revenue is classified in our fiscal system the product of two classes of excise taxes; viz.: - fiscal stamps and postage stamps. The latter as they are destined to pay the postage of correspondence which circulates through the post offices of the Republic are principally ruled by provisions which are issued by the Post Office branch.

The fiscal stamps are ascribed to what has by tradition formed the Stamp Revenue established in the year 1870 to attend to the needs of Public Instruction and for many years ascribed to that Administration Service; it being managed by an aggregate of rules and precepts called Law of the National Stamp Revenue.

The above mentioned Law (1923) contains in alphabetic order a sufficiently complete enumeration of taxes on all acts and documents usually used in civil, commercial, industrial and administration matters which are subject to the national stamp tax with indication of the amount in each case and omitting the observance as far as possible of general rules caus-

ing difficulties. The Federal Executive may enlarge said enumeration and include new acts or documents by virtue of the power granted by said law and provided the document is within the general definition it establishes the new tax not being applicable but after a month that it is established and published in the *Official Gazette*.

Due to the special condition of this tax paid through the means of fiscal stamps, its settlement and collection are effected in a special manner as the first is made by the contributors themselves, and revised by the fiscal employees and the collection of the tax is effected at the offices which sell the stamps.

The organization of the Revenue follows likewise the general lines of our fiscal régime. There is located in Caracas a central Office or General Administration and local ones at the most important centres of the country; each local Administration has a determined jurisdiction within which it effects the service by means of the selling agencies and the General Administration and acts at the same time as local administration in Caracas and other places.

The Stamped Paper Revenue has a close resemblance with the Stamp Law, the same rulings as to settlement and collection and the first one is managed by the same offices established for the administration of the second one.

INHERITANCES REVENUE

Under the name of Inheritance Revenue are comprised all the portions of private estate to which the National Fisc is entitled, *mortis causa* by virtue of legal provisions.

Several of the sources of income due to this Revenue existed already in the Colonial epoch and from the beginning of the Republic they were ascribed to cover the different needs of the Administration commencing by one which tends to very

high aspirations: the liberty of man. In the year 1821 the Congress at Cúcuta, at the Liberator's suggestion, who since 1816 had decreed the abolition of slavery in Venezuela, enacted a law about the liberty of children of slaves, their emancipation and the abolition of the slave trade, establishing among other revenues, to attend to this noble object, the one produced by hereditary transfers which are mentioned in the law as subject to taxes and in 1856 the revenues produced by inheritances were devoted to the service of the debt of abolition of slavery and lately they were ascribed to public instruction until December 19, 1914.

The sources of revenue which form the inheritance Revenue are established in the law by setting them aside from different branches of the National Revenue which likewise regulates other revenue of different classes; viz.: - The product of redemption annuities, legacies to public establishments or branches of the administration; the product of obligations having an illegal origin, contracted before December 19, 1916 and the products of certain fines. The above mentioned Law enacts everything regarding the settlement and collection of all branches of revenue it establishes, giving in detail the rules adopted to effect such operations.

The Inheritance Revenue is formed: by the tax of 3% on the net total of the portions of inheritances and legacies left to collateral heirs and of 10% on the net part of the portions of inheritances and legacies left to strangers; vacant inheritances; what corresponds to the National Fisc according to the Civil Code in the estate which the testator may set aside in favor of his soul, without declaring how it is to be applied, or simply for masses, suffrages, services or pious works; the estate left by the testators to the poor or in a similar manner, expressing in general without determining its application or the public establishment in favor of which they have been made or when

the person commissioned to determine it, cannot or refuses to do it; the product of the sale of real estate incumbered with chaplaincies which are vacant *de jure devoluto* or in favor of a clerical benefice; the legacies which private persons may make to any national public establishment or any branch of the administration and the fines for infringement of the rules established for these branches of revenue.

For the settlement of the tax on inherited transfers between collaterals or strangers, the previous declaration of the contributor is considered as to what was the amount which formed the assets and liabilities of the estate in question and the law provides so as to avoid doubt which might arise due to International Doctrines with reference to the establishment of the personal estate, that "when the inheritance comprises real or personal estate existing abroad, or credits whose debtors are domiciled abroad, said estate and credits are exempted from paying the tax".

It is exceptional that Revenues, established and ruled by the Law on the different branches of the National Revenue, are not managed by special offices but directly by the Minister of Finance, for which reason the settlement of revenue in such cases is performed by special fiscal officers having power to effect it.

**Minting of Venezuelan coins in gold, silver and nickel
effected from March 31, 1879, date on which the bolivar was
established as monetary unit, to December 31, 1923.**

YEARS	MEASURES AUTHORIZING COININGS	AMOUNTS COINED		
		GOLD	SILVER	NICKEL
		Bs.	Bs.	Bs.
1879	Resolution of the Dep. of Interior Relations authorizing Gen. M. A. Matos to coin B 2,500,000 in gold and B 2,500,000 in silver	2,500,000	2,500,000	
1886-1889	Contract approved by the Nat. Congress on May 10, 1886 to coin at the Caracas Mint annually B 4,000,000 in gold and B 4,000,000 in silver	11,151,620	10,862,997	
1893	Exec. Decree of April 4 directing coining of B 6,000,000 in silver and B 500,000 in nickel. (By Resolution of Nov. 25, 1893 this sum was reduced to B 2,000,000 in silver and B 200,000 in nickel. There is no record of the latter sum having been imported)		2,000,000	
1896	Exec. Decree of June 30 directing coining of B 200,000 in nickel			200,000
1899	Exec. Decree of Dec. 5 directing the coining of B 2,000,000 in silver		2,000,000	
1899	Exec. Decree of Dec. 5 directing importation of B 750,000 in nickel, which were deposited in Berlin			750,000
1900	Exec. Decree of July 14 directing coining of B 2,000,000 in silver		2,000,000	
1902	Exec. Decree of March 26 directing the coining of B 2,000,000 in silver		2,000,000	
1903	Exec. Decree of May 8 directing the coining of B 4,000,000 in silver		4,000,000	
1904	Communication of the Minister of Finance of January 28, ordering the coining at the Paris Mint of B 2,000,000 in gold according to the Legislative Decree of April 11, 1903	2,000,000		
1904	Communications of the Minister of Finance dated July 7 and 22 directing the coinage in Paris of B 2,000,000 in silver		2,000,000	
1905	Exec. Decree of April 7 directing the coining of B 2,000,000 in gold and B 3,000,000 in silver . . .	2,000,000	3,000,000	
1910	Exec. Decree of July 9 directing the coining of B 2,000,000 in gold and B 6,000,000 in silver . . .	2,000,000	6,000,000	
1911	Exec. Decree of February 4 directing the coining of B 1,000,000 in gold and B 3,000,000 in silver . . .	1,000,000	3,000,000	
1911	Exec. Decree of November 16 directing the coining of B 3,000,000 in gold and B 7,000,000 in silver . . .	3,000,000	7,000,000	
1914	Exec. Decree of June 29 directing the coining of B 100,000 in nickel			100,000
1918-1919	Legislative Decree of June 25, 1918 directing the coining of B 10,600,000 in gold and B 5,300,000 in silver and Exec. Decree of January 10, 1919 directing the coining of B 5,300,000 in silver because there is in the reserve fund of the Treasury double the amount in gold coin. (Art. 15 of Coin Law) . . .			5,300,000
1920	Exec. Decree of August 20 directing coining of B 100,000 in nickel			100,000
1919-1921	Legislative Decree of June 27, 1919 authorizing the coining of B 12,000,000 in gold and B 6,000,000 in silver; and Executive Decree of April 29, 1921 directing the coining of said B 6,000,000 because there exists in the reserve fund of the Treasury double the amount in gold coin. (Art. 15 of the Law of Coins)			6,000,000
1922-1923	Legislative Decree of June 5, 1922 authorizing the coining of B 14,000,000 in gold and B 7,000,000 in silver; and Exec. Decree of September 26, 1923 directing the coining of the B 7,000,000 in silver because there exists in the reserve fund of the Treasury double the amount in gold coin			7,000,000
	Totals	23,651,620	64,662,997	11,150,000

NOTE:

According to the Law of June 23, 1922 the coinage of B 200,000 in nickel is being considered by the Department of Finance so as to effect it as soon as possible in the most economic way.

Table showing the Receipts by Fiscal Years

Fiscal Years	Customs Revenue	Consular Revenue	Total of Customs and Consular Revenues	Internal Revenue	Total Receipts	Coinings	Supplements of the Bank of Venezuela	Total Receipts	Effective Balances on June 30 of each year
1908-1909	B 35.201.220,24	B 53.477,51	B 35.254.697,75	B 15.155.435,13	B 50.410.132,88			B 50.410.132,88	B 1.626.607,38
1909-1910	33.344.715,37	160.594,18	33.505.309,55	15.047.547,26	48.552.856,81			51.247.670,45	213.156,29
1910-1911	44.856.025,99	778.164,40	45.634.190,39	14.657.993,26	60.292.183,65	B 9.570.000,—		70.491.304,61	531.389,23
1911-1912	53.271.422,10	981.673,69	54.253.095,79	16.110.417,55	70.363.513,34	12.430.000,—		82.793.513,34	7.491.222,29
1912-1913	49.686.120,21	1.135.801,95	50.821.922,16	14.640.617,29	65.462.539,45			65.462.539,45	10.545.527,91
1913-1914	43.371.945,49	977.523,60	44.349.469,09	16.021.523,92	60.370.993,01			60.370.993,01	6.042.923,21
1914-1915	29.902.882,11	710.576,03	30.613.458,14	19.985.002,37	50.598.460,51			50.598.460,51	11.811.328,81
1915-1916	39.583.420,06	1.144.892,38	40.728.312,44	24.846.072,85	65.574.385,29	100.000,—		65.674.385,29	19.555.485,93
1916-1917	43.216.935,57	1.404.796,40	44.621.731,97	27.504.935,37	72.126.667,34			72.126.667,34	33.638.525,98
1917-1918	23.494.000,30	1.050.127,12	24.544.127,42	28.709.558,64	53.253.686,06			53.253.686,06	33.943.287,56
1918-1919	22.630.135,30	1.131.892,63	23.762.027,93	33.340.089,74	57.102.117,67			57.102.117,67	32.884.379,54
1919-1920	51.729.948,32	2.735.891,52	54.465.839,84	41.368.600,33	95.834.440,17	5.300.000,—		101.134.440,17	65.953.298,95
1920-1921	42.248.427,60	1.914.055,56	44.162.483,16	37.298.233,03	81.460.716,19	100.000,—		81.560.716,19	44.858.272,24
1921-1922	26.964.788,69	1.297.922,24	28.262.710,93	36.664.239,14	64.926.950,07	6.000.000,—		70.926.950,07	34.949.068,15
1922-1923	41.487.643,39	1.731.837,10	43.219.430,49	44.471.839,23	87.691.319,72			87.691.319,72	50.626.086,31
	B 580.989.630,74	B 17.209.226,31	B 598.198.857,05	B 385.822.105,11	B 984.020.962,16	B 33.500.000,—	B 3.323.934,60	B 1.020.844.896,76	

Table showing the Expenditure by Fiscal Years

Fiscal Years	Department of Interior Relations	Department of Foreign Relations	Department of Finance	Department of War and Navy	Department of Fomento	Department of Public Works	Department of Public Instruction	Minting Expenditure	Payments to the Bank of Venezuela	Total Expenditure
1908-1909	B 12.178.799,31	B 3.627.992,73	B 14.935.973,68	B 9.113.534,86	B 3.110.381,06	B 1.992.930,79	B 2.961.138,58		B 1.472.620,66	B 49.393.371,67
1909-1910	15.297.990,72	918.121,82	18.673.698,68	9.611.531,18	3.475.295,46	1.578.433,10	3.106.050,58			52.661.121,54
1910-1911	19.458.220,16	974.699,71	25.721.598,71	8.679.923,28	3.296.382,48	5.262.855,67	3.026.282,58	B 3.753.109,08		70.173.071,67
1911-1912	20.389.485,64	784.291,17	21.375.677,23	9.781.999,63	3.328.868,92	3.616.782,65	3.440.789,59	9.791.850,85	3.323.934,60	75.833.680,28
1912-1913	16.183.571,82	924.501,67	15.536.368,37	12.257.008,39	3.699.633,24	9.917.852,40	3.889.297,94			62.408.233,83
1913-1914	15.688.708,74	910.785,60	14.309.728,24	20.860.335,78	4.050.260,29	5.120.398,51	3.933.380,55			64.873.597,71
1914-1915	13.390.316,85	756.063,85	10.427.311,74	11.240.244,78	2.830.122,39	3.348.530,44	2.837.464,86			44.830.054,91
1915-1916	15.064.202,58	843.451,62	14.995.951,83	10.586.391,45	3.018.681,53	10.931.399,64	2.440.852,94	49.296,58		57.930.228,17
1916-1917	16.667.970,36	874.262,81	14.635.750,63	11.555.079,36	3.598.720,66	8.038.417,02	2.673.426,45			58.043.627,29
1917-1918	14.776.365,84	971.976,49	13.013.342,10	10.944.506,82	3.700.439,86	6.802.686,46	2.739.606,91			52.948.924,48
1918-1919	17.167.804,43	1.181.623,18	15.843.561,12	9.634.751,95	4.382.349,98	7.222.595,86	2.728.339,17			58.161.025,69
1919-1920	18.920.078,80	1.606.597,07	11.599.864,01	10.953.367,88	5.787.473,99	12.725.760,07	2.832.494,82	3.639.884,12		68.065.520,76
1920-1921	21.866.228,87	6.042.585,94	15.748.980,54	20.079.266,28	7.977.766,26	23.652.727,87	4.561.268,74	2.726.918,40		102.655.742,90
1921-1922	22.524.594,49	3.373.279,43	14.076.244,26	14.841.705,23	7.755.596,16	13.186.527,77	4.495.241,57	582.965,25		80.836.154,16
1922-1923	19.286.307,79	3.315.418,44	15.742.198,70	13.094.995,62	6.646.952,03	9.353.390,16	4.575.038,82			72.014.301,56
	B 258.860.646,40	B 27.105.651,53	B 236.636.249,84	B 183.234.642,49	B 66.658.924,31	B 122.751.288,41	B 50.240.674,10	B 20.544.024,28	B 4.796.555,26	B 970.828.656,62



PALACE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

STATEMENT
ON THE PUBLIC CREDIT
OF VENEZUELA

The origin of Venezuelan Debts goes back to the epoch of Greater Colombia. When the separation of the entities forming that Republic was effected the division of its debt was carried out and Venezuela became responsible for twenty-eight and one half per centum of the total amount.

This is therefore the source of two kinds of obligations which since the birth of the Republic have been distinguished under the names of Internal Credit and External Credit or Internal Debt and External Debt, the nationality of the original creditor serving to indicate the difference.

INTERNAL CREDIT

The principal details of our Internal Credit or Internal Debt may be summarized in the following sketch because a complete account thereof would need a larger space than the one devoted to this statement.

According to the Convention of December 23, 1834, in the year 1839 the final division of the different Internal Debts of Greater Colombia was effected and Venezuela became responsible for twenty-eight and one half units as already stated, with which the basis of the Internal Debt of Venezuela was formed consisting of the corresponding part of the Colombian Debts: Consolidated 3%, Nonconsolidated 3%, Consolidated 5%, Nonconsolidated 5%, Floating assigned and nonassigned, Treasury Bonds and Interest acknowledged.

New acknowledgments of Colombian Debt were then made, always in the proportion of the twenty-eight and one half per centum corresponding to Venezuela and for the solution of this part of the burden received by the Republic on its establishment, as well as for obligations that she began to contract by successive Laws and Decrees several new ones were created, unified and converted under different denominations.

In the Year 1865 the first steps towards the unification of all the obligations of our Internal Credit were taken and to this effect two Debts were created; viz.: - the National Debt for Military Rewards bearing 6% annual interest and the National Consolidated Debt bearing the same interest; the latter to convert in it all the other obligations existing against the Treasury, at the rates which were established.

But this simplification of the Internal Credit of the Republic did not last a long time, because soon new responsibilities began to arise on different accounts, which made necessary on November 30, 1872 the enactment of a Law refunding in two all the existing Public Debts. The new ones were called Ancient and Modern Debts.

By a Law of June 6, 1874 two Debts were enacted: one called National Consolidated 5% to unify the Ancient and Modern Debts and the other called Nonconsolidated formed by all claims pending which were convertible according to the Law of 1872 into Ancient or Modern Debts.

Already in the year 1870, at the same time when the Credit Company was established, the first issue of Bonds of 1% monthly interest occurred, of which eight issues were made in different epochs, the last taking place in 1895.

In the year 1894 two Debts were created called Floating and Revolution Debts both not bearing interest: the first by Decree of January 13, to convert the pending pay-vouchers comprised within the period of October 7, 1892 to October 31, 1893, and the second by Decree of February 17, to cover the Credits for funds advanced and Military Assets of the Revolution of 1892. In that same year was created by Decree of July 16 a third Debt called Internal Debt of 6% a year to fund in it the Floating and Revolution Debts; the first mentioned at par and the second at 15%.

In the year 1896 was created the Special Internal Debt of the Water of Caracas bearing as interest 5% a year, and in the same year a new step was taken towards the unification of all the existing Internal Debts, with the exception of that of the Caracas Water, and creating to this effect an Internal National Consolidated Debt of 6% annual interest, to which were to be converted the rest at the following rates; viz.: - the 5% a year National Consolidated Debt at 85%; the Floating Debt at par; the Revolution Debt at 15%; the 6% a year Internal Debt at par and the Credits against the Nation at 20%.

In the year 1897 promissory notes on bearer or Treasury Bonds were issued to cover with them the pay-vouchers which were pending and which were to be canceled monthly by means of drawings.

Another attempt at the simplification of the Internal Credit was the Decree of January 1st., 1906, which created two Debts called 3% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt and Nonconsolidated National Internal Debt without interest; the first to fund at par the 6% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt and the 1% Monthly Bonds existing on De-

ember 31, 1905 and the second to pay outstanding interest of both debts up to the same date. The Nonconsolidated Debt was convertible into Consolidated by means of monthly drawings.

In the year 1909 commenced a new era for the Public Credit of Venezuela, because from that date on, that is to say, during the Government of the National Rehabilitation, has ruled in the Management of so delicate a branch the punctuality in the fulfilment of duty, the regularity and patriotism which distinguish all the acts of this Government. In an itemized table at the end of this statement will be shown the total of our Internal Debt on January 1st. 1909, the increase effected later on account of causes due to former Governments, the amount to which it had been reduced on December 31st. 1923 which compared with the total amount shows the reduction carried out in fifteen years and the sum paid for the regular and never interrupted service of the interest and mortmaining during that lapse of time; but before it is convenient to continue the brief description of the Laws and precepts which have been enacted until now in this branch, being prominent those which have been passed during the period of the Rehabilitation because they have been elaborately prepared according to the scientific principles which now rule the Credit of Nations and have tended to a true unification and funding of our Internal Debt.

On July 6, 1911 two Laws were enacted. By the first one the Board of Public Credit was granted power to examine and settle the credits which might be presented against the National Government provided that they had not been rejected by Boards which had been previously appointed for this purpose or considered as lapsed by virtue of Laws and Decrees on the subject and excepting also those which might be

acknowledged by Congress during its sittings of the period which at the time was in session. The term granted for the submission of credits was of five months reckoned from the first of August to the 31st., of December of said year, the claims which were not introduced within said term being considered as lapsed and without any value. By the second Law six months were fixed as term reckoned from August 1st. 1911 so that the holders should submit for conversion into National Internal Consolidated Debt of 3% annual interest the balances existing in four Public Debts which had not been presented for their respective conversions and it was likewise enacted that the bonds not presented during the fixed term would become null and void. The Bonds called for conversion were: of the 6% a year National Internal Debt B 10.541,25, convertible at par; of the Floating Debt without interest B 6.703,20, convertible at par; of the 5% a year National Consolidated Debt B 11.118,58, convertible at 85%, and of the Debt of the Revolution B 115.637,94, convertible at 15%.

On June 11, 1915 a Public Credit Law was enacted in which it was provided (Articles 52 and 54) to cancel the sum of B 10.484.340,43 of 3% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt which was inscribed in favor of Public Instruction a cancelation which was effected due to the fact that as the principle of unification of the Treasury was introduced in our Fiscal Legislation the Public Instruction Revenues became National Revenues which circumstance made them form a unit with the Public Treasury as to credit and debit. Likewise it was decided to inscribe anew without issuing Bonds in favor of the Municipality of Caracas the sums of Bs. 1.819.128. and B 177.865 of 3% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt inscribed in favor of the National Charity House and of Hospitals of the Federal District respectively and also to

inscribe anew in equal conditions to the former in favor of the Chaves College the sum of Bs. 101.659,50 of the same Debt which was inscribed in favor of said institute.

The above mentioned Law of 1915 provided in its 55th. Article a term of six months to be reckoned from July 1st. of said year to convert at par in 3% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt the balances in circulation of the following Debts: of the 6% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt B 40.199,59; of the 1% monthly Bonds, 8th. Edition B 38.165,62 and to the National Internal Nonconsolidated Debt without interest B 1.135.644,83. And likewise said Law provided that if the term fixed should elapse the right to convert them would be null and void.

On June 15, 1923 the newest Law was enacted on the Public Credit and its Article 56 provided the destruction by incineration of the 3% a year Bonds of the National Internal Consolidated Debt which were deposited at the National Treasury received in payment for sales of Public Land and of those which in future for this respect may be received previously annulling them in the corresponding books.

Having made known the legal provisions enacted with reference to the Interior Credit during the mentioned fifteen years, hereinafter are given the principal features of the general service of the branch during said period.

The Government of the Rehabilitation found a heavy burden of Internal Debts which the former Administrations, as it has been shown, had accumulated, making thus more difficult every day and more complicated the condition of our Public Credit so that on January 1st. 1909 it was represented thus:

I.—5% a year National Consolidated Debt B	11.118,58
II.—Revolution Debt (without interest) . .	115.637,94

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

III.—Floating Debt (without interest) . . .	6.703.20
IV.—6% a year National Internal Debt.	10.541,25
V.—6% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt	1.674.469,25
VI.—1% Monthly Bonds, 8th. Edition..	740.371,90
VII.—National Internal Consolidated Debt (without interest)	4.613.261,95
VIII.—3% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt, thus:-	
In circulation . . . B 47.979.635,01	
Inscribed 12.387.032,45	60.366.667,46
IX.—Promissory Vouchers on bearer or Treasury Bonds	2.074.479,84
B	69.613.251,37

Of all these Debts the first seven were unified according to the legal provisions already mentioned and formed the 3% a year Natoinal Internal Consolidated Debt and the Treasury Bonds were canceled partly by conversion into the same Debt and partly by cash purchase, and there remains now a small outstanding balance.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

And to this must be added the 3% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt issued during the fifteen years for conversions as stated above, for the payment of acknowledged credits and for other purposes; thus:-

For 6% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt	1.636.269,66
For 1% Monthly Bonds, eighth Edition	703.206,28
For National Internal Consolidated Debt without intrest	4.467.863,07
For 5% a year National Consolidated Debt	2.660,67
For Revolution Debt without interest	3.157,65
For 6% a year National Internal Debt	780
For the payment of the credits according to the Law of Juy 6, 1911	939.597,65
In favor of Carlos A. Guía according to Resolution of November 19, 1912 in payment of a claim against the Nation	294.000
For having added to the accounts of bonds of said Debt which were not included in the register	199.000
	<hr/>
	B 70.687.682,28

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

If to this sum is added the amount of the Debts canceled in the books of the Public Credit because they have lapsed, that is . . . 1.195.701,06

We shall have a total of Debts of . . . B 71,883,383,34

There remains a difference of . . . B 30.280.138.28

This difference represents the total of the Internal Debt mortmained from 1909 to 1923.

During the fifteen years taken into consideration the Public Treasury has paid for interest and mortmaining of the 3% a year National Internal Consolidate Debt and to withdraw the Promissory vouchers or Treasury Bonds the sum of B 30.492.475,13 thus itemized:

For Interest:

3% a year National Internal Consolidated Debt.

In circulation. . . . B 21.181.349

Inscribed. . . . 3.090.003,49 B 24.271.352,49

For amortization:

B 30.492.475,13

EXTERNAL CREDIT

According to the provisions of above mentioned Convention of December 23, 1834, Venezuela assumed the responsibility of the twenty-eight and one half per centum of the external Debt of Colombia. And therefore acknowledged as its Debt by Decree of September 16, 1840 the twenty-eight and one half per centum of the Colombian Loans of 1822 and 1824 to which the convention refers and called it Foreign Debt; and likewise acknowledged the interest pending of said Debt until September 30, 1840.

To attend to other needs two Debts were created, called Active Debt and Deferred Debt; the first one for the amount of £ 1.888.395,15 to pay the primitive capital earning 2% annual interest during the first seven years increasing then at the rate of one quarter per centum yearly until it reached 6%. The Deferred Debt was set aside to pay pending interest as already mentioned which was calculated as a whole for that date in a sum equal to the original capital, that is, £ 1.888.395,15. This last Debt did not earn any interest until October 1st., 1852 and from this date on it began to earn a 1% during the first year increasing yearly at the rate of one quarter per centum until it reached a maximum of 5%.

By Law of May 18, 1843 James Mackintosh's claim against Colombia was acknowledged and the twenty-eight and one half units corresponding to Venezuela were paid partly in cash and partly in Active Debt.

On March 1st., 1859 an arrangement was entered into in London with the Bondholders of our Foreign Debt and it was agreed that the Active Debt should only earn during the year 1859 a two and one half per centum, and from January 1st., 1860 3% and that the Deferred Debt should earn dur-

ing the year 1859 a 1% and from January 1st., 1860 on one and one half per centum. It was also convenanted in said agreement that the interest accrued and pending since 1847 until December 1858 for the Active and Deferred Debts should be paid with Bonds of the Active one and it was likewise established that the Bonds of the Deferred Debt could be converted at the rate of 50% into Active Debt Bonds.

On July 1st., 1862 an agreement was entered into in London by Dr. Hilarion Nadal, as Fiscal Commissioner of the Republic with Messrs. Baring Brothers & Co., according to which a Loan was floated for £ 1.000.000 bearing interest at 6% a year and 2% for amortization, guaranteed by the 55% of the import revenue of the Custom Houses of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello issued at 63%.

In the same year 1862 Promissory vouchers or Bonds were issued for the amount of £ 210.210 bearing a 6% annual interest to pay accrued interest of the Active and Deferred Debts during the four half years from January 1st., 1860 to December 31st., 1861.

By Resolution of the Constituent Assembly passed on January 14, 1864 the Loan floated in London on October 3, 1863 stipulated between the Fiscal Commissioner of Venezuela and the Credit Company was approved for £ 1.500.000 bearing an annual interest of 6% and 2% amortization, secured by the export duties of the Custom Houses of La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Maracaibo and Ciudad Bolivar. This Loan was issued at 60% and is known as the Loan of 1864 or of the Federation.

In the year 1872 a Decree-Law was enacted regarding the distribution of the revenue produced by the Custom Houses, which at the time was nearly the exclusive source of income for the Public Treasury a part of which was set aside for the

Service of the National Credit. With the exception of the product of the branch "Use of Warehouses", the customs revenue was divided into one hundred units distributed as follows: 60 units to be applied to the General Budget and the remaining 40 units, thus: 27% for the Internal Public Credit; 27% for the External Public Credit; 33% for the Internal Development of the country, and 13% for Foreign Claims.

By Law of May 29, 1876 was created the Debt called National Debt of the 13% for Diplomatic Agreements, to settle the claims of foreign countries, liquidated and acknowledged since 1864. It was given the aforesaid name because it was secured to pay its interest and amortization by the 13% of the 40 units of the Customs Revenue set aside to foreign claims by the above mentioned Law of November 30, 1872; but this Debt has always borne the annual interest of 3% and now it is called National Debt of the 3% annual interest for Diplomatic Agreements.

On January 24, 1880 an agreement was concluded which was ratified by the Law of May 29, of the same year by which the Bonds of the Active and Deferred Debts, Promissory vouchers of the 6% and Loans of 1862 and 1864 together with pending interest of all these Debts were unified in a new one called National Debt of the United States of Venezuela of 1881 and the conversion was effected at the rates of 30% and 15% respectively of the two first ones with their pending interest and of 60% the three last ones and their interest. For this unification Bonds were issued amounting to £ 2.750.000 from which must be discounted £ 48.000 of the old Bonds which were not presented for conversion, the Debt which is called English Debt of the 3% annual interest was reduced to £ 2.702.000.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

On August 5, 1887 it was decided to liquidate until July 1st. of the same year the claims of foreign countries which were to be paid with National Debt of the 13% for Diplomatic Agreements, with the exception of Great Britain, the United States and Holland; and consequently according to said Law and its regulations it was decided to issue Debt in favor of Germany and Spain for the amount of their balances and of France for her claims acknowledged by the Agreement of November 25, 1885. Denmark whose claim it was decided to likewise liquidate did not accept the payment in Debt and it became necessary to continue effecting it in cash by monthly instalments; Great Britain and Holland continued receiving likewise in cash their monthly quotas and the claims of the United States remained pending to be definitely settled by the Agreement of September 3, 1890 in which a cash payment was stipulated by annual quotas. In the North American claims was comprised the payment in cash of the Hancox claim acknowledged by the Mixed Commission created by virtue of the Arbitration Treaty concluded on January 19, 1892.

Of the National Debt of the 13% for Diplomatic Agreements the following issues have been effected by virtue of the Resolution already mentioned of August 5, 1887 and later regulations thereof; viz.:-

On December 13, 1887 in favor of the French Legation by virtue of the acknowledged claims in the Agreement of November 25, 1885 B 483.970,92

On December 24, 1887 to the German Legation to settle the balance of the claims acknowledged in favor of German subjects by the Agreement of January 27, 1887 . . . 90.742,08

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

On December 26, 1887 to the Spanish Legation to pay the balance of the claims acknowledged in favor of Spanish subjects by the Agreement of March 10, 1874.	4.498.012,70
On February 24, 1890 to the Spanish Legation to pay according to the Resolution of the Department of Foreign Relations of January 18 of the same year, the claim of Bernardino Lopez Esteves	400.000
On November 20, 1890 to the French Legation to pay according to the Resolution of the Department of Foreign Relations of October 31, of the same year the amount of the claims acknowledged by the Mixed Commission created by virtue of Article 3 of the Agreement of November 25, 1885 concluded with France as definite settlement of the claims which arose later than the years 1867-1868	1.109.615,50
On July 1st., 1897 in favor of the French citizen Antonio Fabiani to pay his claim according to the award of the President of the Swiss Confederation in his capacity of Arbitrator chosen by Venezuela and France by virtue of the Treaty of February 24, 1892 for B 4.455.322,92 and from which must be deducted the sum of B 108.666,41 which were provisionally issued in Bonds to pay the interest at the rate of 5% a year from the day of the award until June 30, 1897 when they were paid in cash	4.346.656,51

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

On June 30, 1898 Provisional Certificates issued in favor of the Spanish Legation as balance of the Spanish claims and for other respects acknowledged up to February 25, 1898, date of the award of the Arbitration Commission which was ordered to be provisionally carried into effect by the President of the Republic in Cabinet Council by virtue of the Protocol signed by the Ministers of Foreign Relations and of Public Credit and His Excellency the Plenipotentiary Minister of Spain on June 21, of same year	1.000.000,00
From July to November 1903 to the French Legation by virtue of the 2nd, Article of the Protocol of February 19, 1902.	1.437.051,21
On December 31, 1903 in favor of the Dutch Legation for the claim of Joudah Senior according to the agreement of May 22, 1903	1.000.000,00
On July 1st., 1904 in favor of the French Legation in exchange of a provisional certificate which had been issued on April 14, 1903 as final settlement of the claims of 1892 according to the provision of paragraph 3 of Article 1 of Protocol of February 19, 1902 and which certificate was to be converted into Diplomatic Debt	1.000.000,00
On October 31, 1905 to the French Legation to pay the five claims award-	

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

ed on July 31, of the same year by the Super Arbitrator Plumley which were pending according to the Protocol of Paris of February 19, 1902	3.296.439,05
Total Issue	B 18.662.487,97

According to the power granted by the Law of April 13, 1896 a Loan was negotiated with the Board of the Disconto Gesellschaft, according to a contract entered into on the 15th. of the same month and year for B 50.000.000 issued in Debt Bonds called "Venezuelan Loan of 5% of 1896". This Loan was issued at 80% and had 1% for its sinking fund and its product was used to pay what the Nation owed to the Railroad Companies for the guaranty offered and liquidated up to December 31, 1895, to redeem those guaranties in future, to acquire certain properties for the Nation and for other purposes.

By the Law of June 10, 1896 it was enacted to set aside a sum of 11, 12 units of the Customs Revenue to attend to the service of the Loan to which foregoing paragraph refers.

In the year 1903 in consequence of simultaneous demands for collection on the part of ten countries against Venezuela on account of claims of their respective citizens, protocols were signed in Washington stipulating the settlement of said claims, and according to the terms of said protocols Mixed Commissions met at Caracas to examine the claims and the Hague Arbitration Court was commissioned to issue the final award.

The Debt incurred due to the sums awarded by the Mixed Commissions by virtue of the Washington Protocols

was paid in cash and to guarantee it the 30% of the Customs Revenue of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello was set aside.

On June 7, 1905 an Agreement was concluded in Paris between the Fiscal Agent of Venezuela in Europe and the Representatives of the Holders of the Consolidated Debt of the United States of Venezuela of 1881 and those of the Venezuela Loan of 5% of 1896 in order to fund and convert into a new Debt called "Diplomatic Debt of the 3% a year of the United States of Venezuela—1905 Issue", said Debt and Loan together with the accrued interest of both up to December 31, 1904. This Agreement was approved by the National Congress on July 10, of the same year, and in accordance with it Bonds were issued including the expense of the conversion amounting to £ 5.229.700 or B 132.049.925.

To this Debt was assigned a 1% a year as sinking fund, and the amortization could be effected by means of drawings, purchase of Bonds and by auction; everything thereto related is in charge of the Foreign Bond Holders Committee of London and the Board of the Disconto Gesellschaft in Berlin and as a guaranty was specially assigned to it the 25% of the ordinary revenue produced by the Custom Houses of the Republic, but in a transitory manner until the Debts originated in the Washington Protocols of 1903 were paid, the 60% of the Customs Revenue with the exception of those of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello.

Happily for the country the moment arrived when the mismanagement of our External Credit ceased, the jeopardizing lack of fulfilment and the burdensome operations which weakened more and more the fundamental bases of the Independence and security of the country were suppressed and since 1909 commenced an era of faithful compliance with the national obligations and of the effective suppression of the

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

heavy liens which encumbered the National Credit and which although acknowledged after the aforesaid date were all inherited from the incompetence, the disorder and improvision of former Administrations.

The condition of our External Credit for January 1st., 1909 was the following:-

I.—3% a year National Debt for Diplomatic Agreements:-

French :-

1887 issue	B	0,67
1890 issue		700,00
1897 Fabiani issue . .		3.789.156,51
1903-1904 issues . . .		2.437.051,21
1905 Plumley issue . .		3.296.439,05 B 9.523.347,44

Dutch 965 000 00

II.—Provisional Spanish Certificates

III.—3% a year Diplomatic Debt of the United States of Venezuela, 1905, is—

If we add hereto The Diplomatic Debt without interest (Venezuelan-French agreement of January 14, 1915) . . .

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

And the American and other claims acknowledged during the fifteen years elapsed up to December 31, 1923, amounting to 10.271.975,00

There result Debts amounting to . . . B 161.138.109,93
Deducting from this last sum the Debt existing on December 31, 1923, amounting to 64.575.155,10

We shall have B 96.562.954,83

This sum of B 96.562.954,83 represents the amortizations effected to disburden the External Credit of the Republic during the period to which reference is made.

The payments in cash made during the lapse of fifteen years to attend to the service of interest, amortization and other outlays of the Debts and other external engagements reach B 117.825.042,51, thus:-

For interest B 46.138.231,605
For amortization . . . 70.027.256,725
For other outlays . . . 1.659.554,18 B 117.825.042,51

In the table inserted hereinafter is shown the detailed demonstration of the service of our External Credit from January 1st., 1909 to December 31st., 1923.

By this table is shown in a syntetic manner which were the operations effected concerning our Internal and External Credit during the period taken into consideration and it will be seen that the Government of the National Rehabilitation under the expert guidance of General Juan Vicente Gomez besides not having increased in one single cent our National Debt has paid in a puntual manner the sums to which reference is made.

Refundings and cancellations effected in Venezuelan Debts
during the fifteen years comprised from January 1st., 1909
to December 31, 1923

Expenditure in cash effected by the Government of the National Rehabilitation from January 1st., 1909 to December 31, 1923 to cover the service of Venezuelan Debts, Washington Protocols of 1903 and other claims.

Existing on December 31, 1923 B 106.178.400,16

Total of Debt refunded from 1909 to 1923 . . . B 126,843,093,11

NOTE:

On June 30, 1924 the Debts of Venezuela had been reduced by refunding and payment of interest during the first six months of the year to B. 102,586,155,16

B 233.021.493,27

INTER AMERICAN HIGH COMMISSION
VENEZUELAN SECTION

A natural sentiment impels the American Republics united by a geographic bond to establish among themselves closer ties conducive to the solidarity of their interests; a thought which could not fail to be conceived by the prodigious mind of the Liberator. The Congress at Panamá convoked and convened by Bolívar in the year 1826 and to which the most important American nations of the epoch were invited had the tendency of bringing about a combined action of the convoked countries and to procure among them the closest bonds of fraternity.

The exalted designs of the Assembly of the Isthmus could not be made effective but the thought which inspired it continues to be, with more or less variations, an ideal of the new Republics ostensibly expressed at Pan-American Congresses and Conferences which in the latter years have been celebrated and which being led through more and more favorable channels towards the desired closer ties, which are those tending to develop interamerican commerce encouraged by economic and financial measures adopted by mutual agreement, attain from day to day more practical importance for the great interests of the continent.

By virtue of a resolution adopted at the First Pan American Financial Congress which met at Washington in May 1915 the International High Commission was created as institution composed of all the National Sections of the

American countries, each of which consists of nine Members presided by the Minister of Finance.

This body has as leading function that of harmonizing principles and as far as possible the proceedings of commercial law in America, as well as to try and solve the juridic problems related with the Public Echequer and banks.

Venezuela established her National Section by Resolution of the Federal Executive of August 31, 1915 and as soon as it was created commenced to work in an active manner and has continued to pursue it in the same way so that its studies and efforts have obtained the praise of the Central Executive Committee.

According to a Resolution of the same Financial Congress of 1915 the different National Sections represented by their respective Delegations met in Conference at Buenos Aires, proposed for November 1st., of the same year and opened on April 3, 1916 to which was given the name of First Conference of the International High Commission which makes a résumé of the plan of work of the Body and whose program comprised the thirteen following themes:-

- 1.—Establishment of a monetary Gold Standard.
- 2.—Bills of exchange, bills of lading and other papers of international commerce.
- 3.—
 - a) Uniform classification of goods.
 - b) Customs Regulations.
 - c) Certificates and consular invoices.
 - d) Port Dues.
- 4.—Uniform regulations for commercial travelers.
- 5.—How far is convenient a new or later legislation about trade marks, patents of invention and author's rights.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

6.—Establishment of a uniform low tariff of postage and commission for postal orders and parcel post between American Countries.

7.—Extension of arbitration for the settlement of commercial divergencies.

8.—Convenience of uniforming by international conventions the laws protecting laborers and labor.

9.—Promotion of the exploitation of petroleum and other combustible minerals in America in view of the interest of the consumer, of the traffic and of the industrial progress of the continent.

10.—Need of better means of transport between the American Republics and manner to satisfy it.

11.—Banking facilities. Granting of credits. Provision of funds for public and private enterprises. Stability of International exchange.

12.—Wireless telegraphy. Wireless communication.

13.—Uniformity in the Laws to improve the conditions of credits due to sales of goods.

In some of these themes the legislative uniformity only in the countries forming the High Commission was pursued; thus for instance in customs matters which comprise: equal regulations in general, uniform classification of merchandise, uniform certificates and consular invoices and port dues. In other themes the conclusion of conventions between the different countries was proposed, as in the matter of commercial travelers and registration of trade marks, patents of invention and author's rights.

In this conference it was resolved that the rulings regarding bills of exchange voted at the Hague Conference of 1912 should be adopted by those countries of America whose legislation did not differ substantially with said rulings, so as to attain in the continent the existence of two exclusive legal systems on the matter: the Anglo American adopted by the United States and some other country which has taken it as a model and the system of the Hague Convention for the other countries. This last system was adopted by Venezuela and incorporated in our Code of Commerce of 1919.

In the Buenos Aires Conference were adopted regulations for the International High Commission which complemented the organic status of this institution among others, the following:-

“A Central Committee is established being in charge of the centralization and coordination of the work, the communication of every one of the National Sections with the others, the carrying out of the conclusions of the International High Commission, the preparation of the program, the study and other elements which are necessary to carry into effect the celebration of the second meeting. The expense caused by the Central Committee shall be paid by the country where it is established”.

“The Central Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Secretary of the National Section of the country chosen to be the seat of its office”.

“The National Sections may send representatives to the meetings of the International High Commission composed of delegations not exceeding of five members which must be appointed by the respective Governments. The Chairman of the sessions of the International High Commission shall be the Minister of Finance of the country where they are held”.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

“The city of Washington is designated as seat for the Central Committee”.

The Central Committee shall be called now Central Executive Board and consists of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, a Secretary General and a Legal Adviser who form at the same time the Board of Directors of the United States' Section. In the Second Pan American Financial Congress which met in Washington on January 12, 1920 it was resolved that the International High Commission should change its name for another which should indicate in a more precise manner the elements of which it is composed and the territory where it develops its activities and adopted the name of Inter American High Commission which began to be used since July 1st., 1920.

The Venezuelan Section was elected by Decree of January 1st., 1921 as a Federal Administration Service, dependent of the Department of Finance and in said Decree were defined its attributions and the base of its functions, thus:-

“The Venezuelan Section of the Interamerican High Commission installed by Resolution of the Department of Finance on August 31, 1915 is constituted now into a Federal Administration Service depending from the Department of Finance”.

“The Venezuelan Section consists of nine members and is presided over by the Minister of Finance”.

“The members of the Section shall be appointed by Resolution of the Department of Finance, exercise their functions *ad honorem* and are appointed for the term of two years”.

“The Section shall designate one its members to act as Secretary”.

"The Section shall hold ordinary meetings every month and the extraordinary ones which may be called by the Minister of Finance".

"The ordinary meetings shall be held on the fifth and twentieth of every month and when any of these days shall fall on a holiday on the immediately following working day".

"The attributions of the Venezuelan Section are:

1.—To cooperate according to the aims of the Interamerican High Commission to the uniformity of the laws and regulations having for an object the establishment and development of the commercial relations between Venezuela and the American Republics.

2.—To work out reports on the themes and recommendations which shall be issued by the Interamerican High Commission.

3.—To effect the study of special matters on points of interest for the National economy with regard to interamerican commerce.

4.—To enter into communication with the Central Executive Board of the Interamerican High Commission and with the National Sections in matters related to their work.

5.—To direct in the form in which it may deem most convenient for the aims of the institute, the publication and diffusion of the works it may prepare.

6.—To prepare an annual report on its work to be published in the Report of the Department of Finance to the National Congress.

7.—To establish its internal regulations.

"The Secretary of the Venezuelan Section shall have the following duties:

1.—To draw up the minutes of the meetings. These

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

minutes shall be held in a book for that purpose and shall be signed by the Chairman and Secretary.

2.—To receive and keep the correspondence.

3.—To keep the book of the correspondence of the Section.

4.—To organize the library and files.

5.—To oversee the edition of the reports and other publications which the Section may direct.

6.—To make the estimates for the execution of the works directed by the Section and submit them for approval to the Minister.

7.—To receive and apply the outlays authorized by the Minister of Finance for the expenditure which the service of the Section may cause and examine and file the respective vouchers.

8.—To enter into a book kept for that purpose the papers approved by the Section; these papers shall be signed by its authors".

The work of the Venezuelan Section has been abundant since it was created until now, shown in numerous writings and actions performed in favor of the matters which have been taken into consideration among which are noted for their importance, the following:-

As already stated Venezuela complied in due time with the Resolution sanctioned at the Buenos Aires Conference of 1916 and adopted in our country the rulings on bills of exchange voted at the Conference of the Hague in 1912 including them in the Code of Commerce which was put in force on June 29, 1919.

Arbitration as means to settle commercial controversies between citizens of the different American countries was

put in practice in our country by the celebration of an Agreement of this kind between the Caracas Chamber of Commerce and that of the United States.

With reference to Agreements on Commercial Travelers one has already been covenanted between Venezuela and the United States of America and as for its execution are necessary some regulating provisions the Section has likewise been studying them.

After having studied thoroughly and consulted with the Central Executive Board regarding some points which appeared to collide with the laws of the country but which after knowing their real interpretation resulted as acceptable for our laws, the Section decided to accept the Resolutions of the Fifth Pan American Conference regarding "Improving the maritime transportation facilities" and about the Interamerican Commission of Electric Communication and recommend to the National Executive the adoption of those Resolutions as efficient standards to be followed by the Administration branches to which they refer tending to the favorable attainment of an interamerican understanding.

Among the matters which are as yet under consideration there are some as that which refers to the adoption of a Pan American account currency, the establishment of statistical Summaries of imports and exports according to the Brussels Nomenclature, the causes affecting the banking condition and of exchange in the Pan American commerce and the increase in the weight of parcel post packages have been the object of a very careful study on the part of the body.

And the Venezuelan Section has not limited its action to the consideration of the themes proposed by the Financial Congresses of 1915 and 1920 and by the Conference held at Buenos Aires in 1916 but has considered as comprised

within the object and aims of the Interamerican High Commission the solution of those problems within the scope of its institution which although belonging to the internal order of each country require for their exact solution the cooperation of another or other American Republics, decided to try and remove the obstacles placed to prevent the exportation of our heron feathers to the United States, a trade which is made impossible now due to the prohibitive measures enforced in that country. These measures as they are the outcome of an erroneous conception which in the United States the societies protecting birds have regarding the means employed in our country to gather the feathers, shall require to obtain their derogation a strenuous effort; but the Venezuelan Section intends to persist in the purpose to show the truth on the subject and that the free commerce of heron feathers be reopened in the United States.

In the same order of ideas the Section commenced to try and obtain the suppression of the disinfection demanded by American Consuls in Maracaibo and Ciudad Bolivar of hides and accessory cattle products which coming from Colombia were exported in transit through our ports. Such a demand was contrary to our customs regulations which precribe that in the transit commerce the packages must go to their destination without suffering any alteration in the Custom Houses of the Republic; and the Section had the satisfaction of seeing its efforts crowned with success because the measure in question was immediately suppressed.

The Venezuelan Section is now constituted as follows:-

Chairman: Dr. Melchor Centeno Graü, Minister of Finance.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Members: Dr. Pedro Itriago Chacín, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Dr. Rubén González, Minister of Public Instruction; Dr. Carlos F. Grisanti; Dr. Vicente Lecuna; Dr. J. A. Tagliaferro; Dr. Pedro Hermoso Tellería; Julio F. Méndez; J. M. Herrera Mendoza.

Member Secretary: Dr. Federico J. Peraza.

NEW TYPES OF FISCAL STAMPS



DECREE

OF

O C T O B E R 25,

1922



NOTES: The reproduction of the stamp of B. 0.05 is obliterated in the cut according to the Resolution passed by the Department of Finance dated October 28, 1922.

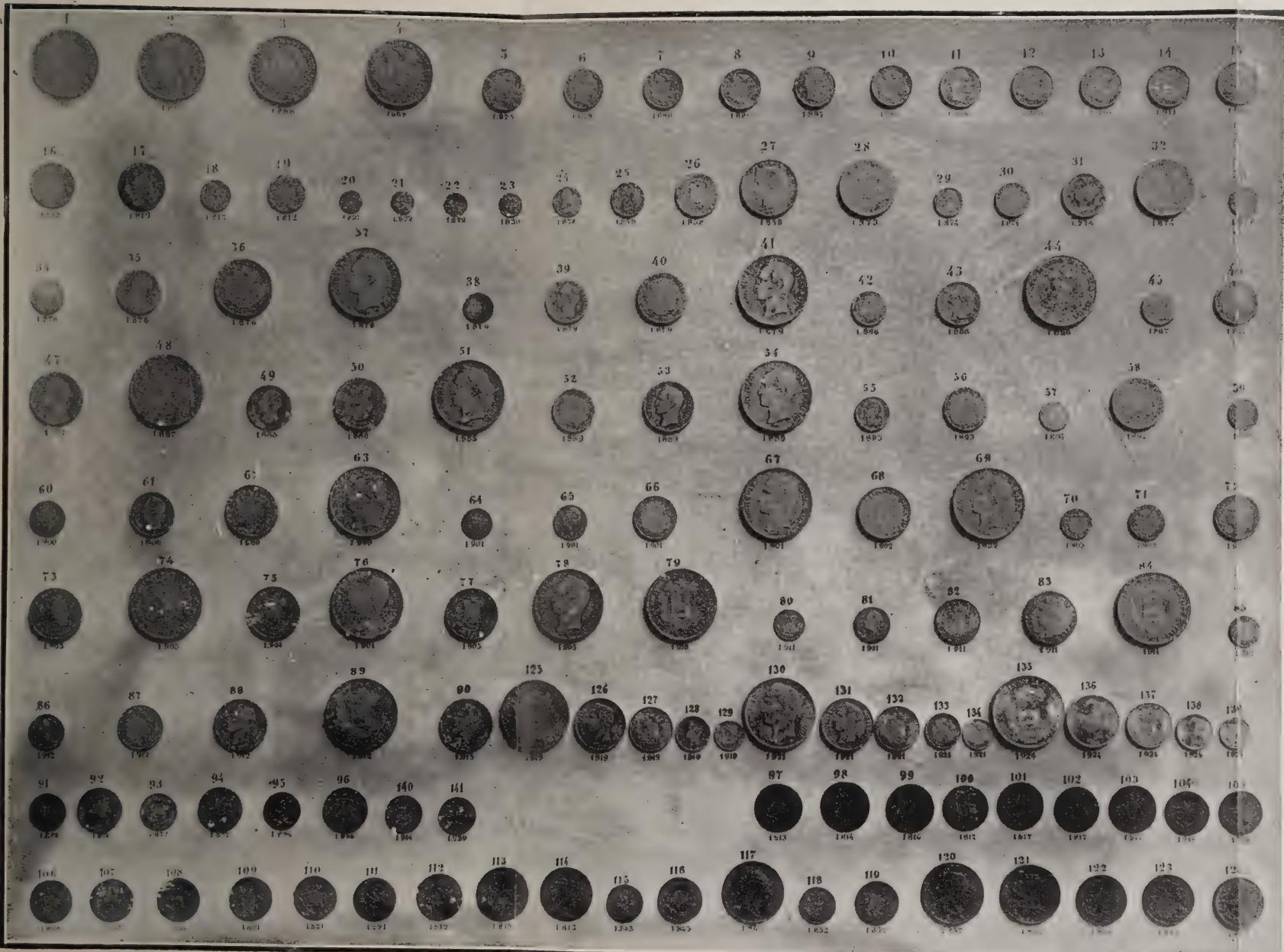
The colors corresponding to the value of each stamp are as follows: B. 0.05, sepia; B. 0.10, emerald green; B. 0.20, cobalt blue; B. 0.50, burnt sienna; B. 1, shadow earth; B. 2, garance carmine; B. 3, violet; B. 10, cadmium yellow; B. 20, orange; B. 50, lac violet.

The size of the reproductions in this cut is larger than the original.

NATIONAL TREASURY

Collection of Venezuelan coins existing at the National Treasury

Nº	1.	Gold	coins of 1886, of 100 bolivars
"	2.	"	1887, " 100 "
"	3.	"	1888, " 100 "
"	4.	"	1889, " 100 "
"	5.	"	1875, " 25 "
"	6.	"	1879, " 20 "
"	7.	"	1880, " 20 "
"	8.	"	1886, " 20 "
"	9.	"	1887, " 20 "
"	10.	"	1888, " 20 "
"	11.	"	1894, " 20 "
"	12.	"	1905, " 20 "
"	13.	"	1910, " 20 "
"	14.	"	1911, " 20 "
"	15.	"	1912, " 20 "
16.	Silver	"	1818, " 2 reals
"	17.	"	1819, " 2 "
"	18.	"	1812, " 1 "
"	19.	"	1812, " 1/2 "
"	20.	"	1821, " 1/4 "
"	21.	"	1822, " 1/4 "
"	22.	"	1829, " 1/4 "
"	23.	"	1830, " 1/4 "
"	24.	"	1858, " 1/2 "
"	25.	"	1858, " 1/2 "
"	26.	"	1858, " 2 "
"	27.	"	1858, " 5 bolivars
"	28.	"	1873, " 2.50 bolivars
"	29.	"	1874, " 0.25 "
"	30.	"	1874, " 0.50 "
"	31.	"	1874, " 1 "
"	32.	"	1874, " 2.50 "
"	33.	"	1876, " 0.25 "
"	34.	"	1876, " 0.50 "
"	35.	"	1876, " 1 "
"	36.	"	1876, " 2.50 "
"	37.	"	1876, " 5 "
"	38.	"	1879, " 0.20 "
"	39.	"	1879, " 1 "
"	40.	"	1879, " 2 "
"	41.	"	1879, " 5 "
"	42.	"	1886, " 0.50 "
"	43.	"	1886, " 1 "
"	44.	"	1886, " 5 "
"	45.	"	1887, " 0.50 "
"	46.	"	1887, " 1 "
"	47.	"	1887, " 2 "
"	48.	"	1887, " 5 "
"	49.	"	1888, " 1 "
"	50.	"	1888, " 2 "
"	51.	"	1888, " 5 "
"	52.	"	1889, " 1 "
"	53.	"	1889, " 2 "
"	54.	"	1889, " 5 "
"	55.	"	1893, " 0.50 "
"	56.	"	1893, " 1 "
"	57.	"	1894, " 0.25 "
"	58.	"	1894, " 2 "
"	59.	"	1900, " 0.25 "
"	60.	"	1900, " 0.50 "
"	61.	"	1900, " 1 "
"	62.	"	1900, " 2 "
"	63.	"	1900, " 5 "
"	64.	"	1901, " 0.25 "
"	65.	"	1901, " 0.50 "
"	66.	"	1901, " 1 "
"	67.	"	1901, " 5 "
"	68.	"	1902, " 2 "
"	69.	"	1902, " 5 "
"	70.	"	1903, " 0.25 "
"	71.	"	1903, " 0.50 "
"	72.	"	1903, " 1 "
"	73.	"	1903, " 2 "
"	74.	"	1903, " 5 "
"	75.	"	1904, " 2 "



Nº	76.	Silver	coins of 1904, of 5 bolivars
"	77.	"	1905, " 2 "
"	78.	"	1905, " 5 "
"	79.	"	1910, " 5 "
"	80.	"	1911, " 0.25 "
"	81.	"	1911, " 0.50 "
"	82.	"	1911, " 1 "
"	83.	"	1911, " 2 "
"	84.	"	1911, " 5 "
"	85.	"	1912, " 0.25 "
"	86.	"	1912, " 0.50 "
"	87.	"	1912, " 1 "
"	88.	"	1912, " 2 "
"	89.	"	1912, " 5 "
"	90.	"	1913, " 2 "
"	91.	Nickel	1876, " 1 centavo
"	92.	"	1876, " 2 1/2 "
"	93.	"	1877, " 1 "
"	94.	"	1877, " 2 1/2 "
"	95.	"	1896, " 0.05 bolívar
"	96.	"	1896, " 0.125 "
"	97.	Copper	1813, " 1/4 real
"	98.	"	1814, " 1/4 "
"	99.	"	1816, " 1/4 "
"	100.	"	1817, " 1/4 "
"	101.	"	1817, " 1/4 "
"	102.	"	1817, " 1/4 "
"	103.	"	1817, " 1/4 "
"	104.	"	1818, " 1/4 "
"	105.	"	1818, " 1/4 "
"	106.	"	1818, " 1/4 "
"	107.	"	1818, " 1/4 "
"	108.	"	1821, " 1/4 "
"	109.	"	1821, " 1/4 "
"	110.	"	1821, " 1/4 "
"	111.	"	1821, " 1/4 "
"	112.	"	1812, " 1/8 "
"	113.	"	1812, " 1/4 "
"	114.	"	1812, " 1/4 "
"	115.	"	1843, " 1/4 centavo
"	116.	"	1843, " 1/2 "
"	117.	"	1843, " 1 "
"	118.	"	1852, " 1/4 "
"	119.	"	1852, " 1/2 "
"	120.	"	1852, " 1 "
"	121.	"	1852, " 1 "
"	122.	"	1858, " 1 "
"	123.	"	1862, " 1 "
"	124.	"	1863, " 1 "
"	125.	Silver	1919, " 5 bolívars
"	126.	"	1919, " 2 "
"	127.	"	1919, " 1 "
"	128.	"	1919, " 0.50 "
"	129.	"	1919, " 0.25 "
"	130.	"	1921, " 5 "
"	131.	"	1921, " 2 "
"	132.	"	1921, " 1 "
"	133.	"	1921, " 0.50 "
"	134.	"	1921, " 0.25 "
"	135.	"	1924, " 5 "
"	136.	"	1924, " 2 "
"	137.	"	1924, " 1 "
"	138.	"	1924, " 0.50 "
"	139.	"	1924, " 0.25 "
"	140.	Nickel	1914, " 0.05 "
"	141.	"	1920, " 0.05 "

NOTE:

Gold coins of B 100 of the years 1886, 1887, 1888 and 1889 were coined at the Mint of the National Government in Caracas with gold from El Callao.

Caracas, September 1924.

BANK-NOTES IN CIRCULATION OF THE BANK OF VENEZUELA



The size of these reproductions is smaller than the original.

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B I B L I O G R A P H Y

1830 - 1924

INTRODUCTORY DATA FOR THE BETTER COMPREHENSION OF THIS BIBLIOGRAPHY

I

The revolution of secession of 1829 lead by General Paez, Superior Chief of Venezuela determined the disintegration of the Republic of Colombia. By the end of said year the bond of union with New Granada, concluded at Angostura, ratified at el Rosario of Cucuta and to which Ecuador had adhered in 1822 was virtually broken. Paez assumed the condition of Civil and Military Chief and by decree dated at his General Headquarters of Caracas on January 13, 1830, established a *de facto* independent government from that of Bogotá. Besides he called elections of the Representatives of the country which were to meet in the month of April next to raise to a constitucional basis the new political entity.

In the same manner by the first of said acts General Paez entrusted the despatch of public affairs to three Secretaries of State: one of Interior, Justice and Police; another of Finance and Foreign Relations, and the third of War and Navy. The Colombian fatherland having been dissolved and Venezuela having reassumed its National autonomy, as a consequence of this fact the Department of Finance was born, the history of which is going to be briefly sketched as a pream-

ble to the bibliography of the publications made by such an important organ of the Administration.

The first *Report of Finance and Foreign Relations* is dated on April 24, 1830, year 20eth. of the Independence and 1st. of the Law and submitted to "His Excellency the Civil and Military Chief of the State" by Don Diego Bautista Urbaneja, Secretary of the mentioned Department, which together with the other two Secretaryships sent their Reports to the Constituent Congress which had met at Valencia on the 6th. of May so that the data therein contained might be utilized by the Assembly in carrying out the final organization of Venezuela.

On May 28 Don Santos Michelena replaced Licentiate Urbaneja as Secretary of Finance and Urbaneja as Deputy for the province of Carabobo went to Congress and was elected Vice President of the Republic. Mr. Michelena took upon himself the heavy task of establishing the internal and external credit of the Nation; a task which he effected with uncommon patriotism, talent, devotion and integrity. This citizen was an eminent Secretary of State, as well in the Department of Finance as in that of Foreign Relations, which as already stated constituted one single Department. Sent as Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Minister of Venezuela to Bogotá he concluded the treaty of friendship, alliance, commerce and navigation which if it had not been disapproved in its principal stipulations by the National Congress of 1836 it would have settled from the very beginning the painful boundary dispute which for nearly a century has been maintained by the two sister Republics. Our Representative likewise concluded with the Chancellries of New Granada and Ecuador an equitable convention for the liquidation and division of the debt incurred by Colombia during the war of independence between the three Sections which formed the great Republic.

According to Article 53 of the Regulation of the Executive Power, passed by the Constituent Congress on July 10, 1830, the "Cabinet of State" was formed by the same three Secretaryships established by General Paez and soon after the same Assembly by Article 134 of the Constitution sanctioned on September 22, maintained the Secretaryships of the Interior and Justice, of Finance and of War and Navy to despatch the business corresponding to the Executive Power, but authorized the First Magistrate to annex to any of them "The Department of Foreign Relations".

Incorporated to the Secretaryship of Finance there remained until the year 1848 the Department of Foreign Relations and when the Secretary acted in the latter capacity headed his notes: "Republic of Venezuela.—Department of Foreign Relations.—Caracas, and so forth", It is likewise convenient to observe that the aforesaid Office submitted to Congress a yearly *Statement* directly and apart of the Report of Finance or of that of the Interior and Justice, as the case might be. And a curious detail is that the Reports of Foreign Affairs were signed by the *Minister* of the branch, while those of the other Departments were signed by the *Secretaries*.

Since 1848 until 1857 when it became completely autonomic the Department of Foreign Relations was annexed to other Departments. By a decree of October 31, 1848 General José Tadeo Monagas assigned it to the Secretary of the Interior and Justice, but soon after the same President on appointing a new Secretary for that Office directed that the Foreign Relations should be added to the Secretaryship of Finance. It did not remain there for a long time because Monagas by decree of September 26, 1849 transferred it to the Interior and Justice and thus brought and sent back until on February 20, 1850 it was annexed anew to the Depart-

ment of Finance. The necessity was felt to assign to it a special Secretaryship to attend to international matters but it could not be done without violating the Constitution in force.

For a third time on May 5, 1851 and this time by decree of General José Gregorio Monagas who had replaced his brother General José Tadeo Monagas as President of the Republic, the Department of Foreign Relations was annexed to the Secretaryship of the Interior and Justice where it remained until 1857.

The Constitution of that year reformed the fundamental Code of 1830 and directed that the President by Article 65 should appoint four Secretaries for the Cabinet of the Executive Power; Secretaries which by law of May 25, 1857 passed by Congress were called Interior and Justice, Finance, Foreign Relations and War and Navy.

Before proceeding further it is necessary to state that since 1838 the Commission of Public Credit created by the law of April 26, of that same year was annexed to the Department of Finance. Invariably since 1839 until 1857 the annual *Statement* of that Commission was inserted in the *Report* of said Department.

Article 100, title XII of the Constitution of 1858 enacted by the National Convention which met at Valencia provides as follows: "For the despatch of the business corresponding to the Executive Power there shall be appointed the number of Secretaries which the law shall determine". It appears that the Convention did not pass the law because it is nowhere to be found, but the Secretaryships were established by virtue of what had been provided by the Constitution and there were four called as the former of the Interior and Justice, of Finance, of Foreign Relations and of War and Navy.

Immediately after the victory of the Federal Revolution, Falcon issued a decree on July 25, 1863 whose first Article is as follows: "For the despatch of the different branches of the Public Administration five Departments are established called of Foreign Relations, Finance, Interior and Justice, Fomento and War and Navy". Since then the former Secretaries of State were called Ministers.

In 1863 General Falcón when he appointed the National Cabinet entrusted to General Guzmán Blanco the portfolios of Foreign Relations and Finance. Soon after Guzmán Blanco was sent to Europe as Fiscal Commissioner of the Republic to float a loan not exceeding two million pounds sterling. During his absence the Department of Foreign Relations was discharged *pro tem.* by the Minister of the Interior and that of Fomento took charge of that of Finance.

Article 74 of the Constitution of 1864 provides: "The President of the United States of Venezuela shall have for his Cabinet the Ministers which the law may prescribe. The latter shall determine its functions and duties and shall organize the Secretaryships". The Constituent Assembly which sanctioned said Constitution did not pass the law to which Article 74 refers because Marshal Falcon, President of the Republic declared in force on May 30, 1864 the decrees of the National Provisional Government regarding the establishment of Departments and the law of May 25, 1857 which organized the Secretaryships. The above mentioned decrees are: one of July 25, 1863 establishing five Departments called Foreign Relations, Finance, Interior and Justice, Fomento and War and Navy; and the other dated July 29, 1863 creating the Department of the Navy, annexed to that of War and discharged by the same Secretary of this Department. Likewise by

decree of May 30 already mentioned the Department of Public Credit was established and that of the Navy was annexed to that of War.

Since 1860 according to the law of June 20, the Section of Public Credit had been established as a dependency of the Department of Finance; a Section which was eliminated by the fact of creating in 1864 the Department of Public Credit. This Office has met with difficulties since its creation until its final annexation to the Department of Finance. Due to abnormal situations this Office was only in activity from 1864 to 1893 when by a decree of March 10 signed by General Joaquín Crespo, Chief of the National Executive Power it was annexed to the Department of Finance. Congress of 1898 by a law of March 9 reestablished the Department of Public Credit, but on October 23, 1899 the Government again ascribed it to the Department of Finance. According to the *Law on Departments* decreed by the National Legislature on June 15, 1915 everything concerning the Public Credit is now in charge of the Department of Finance.

In a manner similar to the political disturbances of the epoch the Department of Finance from 1865 to 1873 proceeded in its work. In the *Reports* of some of these years because there were certain years in which on account of the state of war their publication was interrupted, the slow development of the fiscal resources of the country may be studied. When the April Revolution achieved its victory, General Guzmán Blanco began the reorganization of the Exchequer, and although his methods were far from being scientific, he reaped the fruit of the regularity. His successors maintained as a general rule the structure he had imposed upon the National Exchequer and the results varied only by reason of the greater or lesser zeal with which the principles were applied. At the present moment the

empiric methods followed before to collect and invest the public revenue have been discarded. Its administration corresponds now, with increasing success, to a plan having as basis the precepts of economic science.

When mentioning the Departments of the Federal Executive all Constitutions later than that of 1864 reproduce its Article 74 which provides that "the President of the United States of Venezuela shall have for his Cabinet the Ministers which the law may prescribe, and which shall determine their functions and organize the Secretaryships". Thus it is provided by Article 74 of the Constitution of 1874; by the 67th. of that of 1881; by the 67th. of that of 1891; by the 90eth. of that of 1893; by the 90eth., of that of 1901; by the 81st. of that of 1904; by the 98th. of that of 1909; by the 84th. of that of 1914 and by the 81st. that of 1922. Besides the latter Constitution empowers the Federal Executive to create, during the recess of the Legislative Chambers the Departments which he may deem necessary.

Laws of the National Congress or presidential decrees determined in each case the number of Departments, their duties and organization. In 1874 seven Departments were created; in 1881 eight; in 1891 nine; in 1893 eight; in 1898 nine; in 1901 and 1904 seven, which number has been maintained by the laws of June 10, 1913, of June 15, 1915, of June 19, 1920 and of July 31, 1922. At present they are called Interior Relations, Foreign Relations, Finance, War and Navy, Fomento, Public Works and Public Instruction.

Since 1882 and during several years the Department of Hacienda was officially called of Finance. This denomination was supposed to have been given by General Guzman Blanco himself. In 1890 disappeared the frenchified title and the traditional one was reestablished.

The law of March 9, 1898 established in the Department of Finance the Section of National Estate, in order to assign to it the functions which had been allotted to the transitory Commission of the same name by the decree of December 20, 1875. Everything related to the National Estate depends now from the General Section of Administration.

By virtue of the different laws and decrees which have hereinbefore been reviewed, the Department of Finance was always maintained as one of the essential organs of the Administration, since it was established in 1830 and its labor has never been interrupted.

II

The present bibliography includes the *Reports* and nearly all the other publications made by the Department of Finance since 1830 as well as some volumes of official source whose contents is in accord with the tendencies of the former.

It has been a laborious work to examine so many publications in order to make this work useful and that it may be not only a guide for those who desire to secure information about any fiscal branch or matter but a methodical compilation containing the data prescribed by bibliographic science. In former epochs the Departments had no special libraries. The care of keeping the collections of the *Reports* and other official editions was entrusted to the National Library.

In latter years the task of forming in each Department collections of special works referring thereto has been begun. Unhappily for strictly bibliographic objects the volumes collected are bound and the title pages have not been included. It is to be regretted that these editions should thus have rached our time. Bibliographic science prescribes that the title pages

form a part of bound volumes and must be invariably included in the bindings. The title stamped therein is some times different and the title pages frequently do not contain the same wording. This lack of carefulness on the part of the binder in throwing away such title pages is still more to be regretted when they were specially designed or contain graphic embellishments.

Precisely the lack of title pages in the volumes which are bound of the annual *Statements* of the Department of Finance during the period of 1830 to 1860 is regretful because of the fact that the titles they include are not the same as those of the title pages.

In the General Administration Section of the Department of Finance there is a collection of the *Reports* thereof which lacks nearly in all the volumes such title pages. Such deficiencies obliged us to make investigations in other private and public libraries. And notwithstanding, after long researching the bibliographic perfection desired has not been attained. Bound and clipped when not mutilated is the state in which those volumes have reached us. Not being able to state their primitive size we have been obliged to give in millimetres the dimensions of the typed part including in the length the lines of the numbering of the pages. Numerous statistical tables illustrate the *Reports*, but as they are not of the same size those given refer to the expository part of each document.

In the *Statements* of the Department of Finance of the first years the said tables are not numbered; in this bibliography we have followed the system of considering them and they have been counted as pages. Likewise to make this description shorter the pages which are blank have not been mentioned

because they are included in the number of pages. As the number of pages has always to be an even number when this is not the case it is because the last one has not been printed. Nevertheless it might be objected that in many cases especially pages containing indexes and errata when at the end of the book even when they contain printed text are not numbered. In such cases to avoid confusion it will suffice as done here to give such page the corresponding number. Therefore the volumes ending in an uneven number have a last blank page and those ending in an even number have no blank page. In the like manner have been taken into consideration the introductory pages generally marked with Roman numbers, as well as the different series of paging occurring sometimes in the same book.

Within square brackets are contained the data not included in the title of the volume, but which are needful for the more exact description.

And as final explanation, the reader must understand that the covers of the books and the title pages are the same when no mention is made thereof.

III

*Ministers and Secretaries of Finance of Venezuela before
the creation of Greater Colombia.*

Fernando Key Muñoz, Minister of Finance of the Supreme Board of Venezuela in	1810
José Domingo Duarte, Secretary of Finance, Grace and Justice of the first Plural Government of	1811

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Colonel Antonio Muñoz Tébar and José de Sata y Bussi, Secretaries of Finance of the Second Plural Government of . . .	1812
Colonels Antonio Muñoz Tébar and Tomás Montilla, Secretaries of Finance and Foreign Relations of the Liberator in . . .	1813 and 1814

Secretaries and Ministers of Finance of Greater Colombia.

Doctor Manuel Palacio Fajardo	1819
— Pedro Gual	1819 to 1821
General Luis Eduardo Azuola	1821
Doctor José M. del Castillo	1821 to 1828
— Nicolás M. Tanco	1828 to 1829
— José Ignacio de Márquez	1830
— Gerónimo Mendoza	1830

*Secretaries of Finance of the Republic of Venezuela
from 1830 to 1863.*

Licentiate Diego Bautista Urbaneja (senior)	1830
Santos Michelena	1830 to 1833
Pedro Pablo Díaz	1833 to 1834
Santos Michelena	1834 to 1835
José Luis Ramos	1835
José E. Gallegos	1835 to 1836
Colonel Manuel María Echeandía	1836 to 1837
Santos Michelena	1837
Colonel Guillermo Smith	1837 to 1841
Licentiate Francisco Aranda	1841 to 1844
Juan Manuel Manrique	1844 to 1846
Pedro de las Casas	1846 to 1847

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Miguel Herrera	1847
General José Félix Blanco	1847
Rafael Acevedo	1847 to 1848
Diego Antonio Caballero	1848 to 1849
Ramón Yépez	1849
José Rafael Revenga	1849
Jacinto Gutiérrez	1849
Fernando Olavarriá	1849 to 1850
Manuel Machín Quintero	1850
Vicente Lecuna	1850
José María de Heres	1850
Esteban Ibarra	1850 to 1851
Licentiate Francisco Aranda	1851
Pedro Carlos Gellineau	1851 to 1853
José del C. Vetancourt	1853
Doctor Pío Ceballos	1853 to 1855
Jacinto Gutiérrez	1855 to 1857
Rafael Arvelo	1858
Fermín Toro	1858
Miguel Herrera	1858 to 1859
Pedro de las Casas	1859
Doctor Manuel M. Echeandía	1859
— Eduardo Calcaño	1859
— Manuel Cadenas Delgado	1859
Luis Iribarren	1860
Doctor Eduardo Calcaño	1860
— E. Pérez de Velazco	1860
— Manuel Cadenas Delgado	1860 to 1861
— Manuel Antonio Carreño	1861
— Carlos Elizondo	1861
Francisco Madrid	1861
Doctor Hilarión Nadal	1861
Pedro José Rojas, Secretario general	1862 to 1863

*Ministers of Finance of the United States of
Venezuela from 1863 to 1924.*

General Antonio Guzmán Blanco	1863 to 1864
— Guillermo Iribarren	1863
— Octaviano Urdaneta.	1864
Santiago Goiticoa	1864
Doctor José D. Landaeta	1865 to 1866
Rafael Arvelo	1866
General J. M. Alvarez de Lugo	1866
Doctor Lucio Pulido	1867
General Nicolás Silva	1867
Jacinto Gutiérrez	1867
General Carlos Engelke	1868
Doctor Wenceslao Urrutia	1868
Marcos Santana	1868 to 1869
Doctor Eduardo Calcaño	1869
— Rafael Martínez	1869
Nicanor G. Linares	1869
Domingo Santos Ramos	1869
Juan Antonio Guardia	1869
General Vicente Amengual	1869
Doctor Antonio Parejo	1869
Ramón Francia	1869
Ramón Azpurúa	1869 to 1870
Sixto Sánchez	1870
Juan Francisco Galindo	1870
Miguel Aristeiguieta	1870
Jacinto Gutiérrez	1870 to 1872
Santiago Goiticoa	1872 to 1873
Vicente Coronado	1873 to 1874
Santiago Goiticoa	1874 to 1875
Vicente Coronado	1875 to 1876

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Pedro Toledo Bermúdez	1876 to 1877
Adolfo Urdaneta	1877
Juan Bautista Vidal	1877
Doctor Raimundo Andueza Palacio	1877 to 1878
Trinidad Celis Avila	1878
General Joaquín Díaz	1878
Doctor Modesto Urbaneja	1879
— José Antonio Zapata	1879
General Fernando Adames	1879
Doctor Ildefonso Riera Aguinagalde	1879
Diego Jugo Ramírez	1879
Doctor Juan Pablo Rojas Paúl	1879 to 1884
Andrés María Caballero, (<i>pro tem.</i>)	1882, 1883 and 1884
Doctor Juan Pablo Rojas Paúl	1884
Francisco Rivas Castillo	1884 to 1886
Doctor Juan Francisco Castillo	1886
Andrés María Caballero	1886
P. P. Azpúrua Huizi	1886 to 1887
Doctor Fulgencio M. Carías	1887
— Juan Pablo Rojas Paúl	1887
— Pedro Ramos	1888
Vicente Coronado	1888
General Julio S. García	1888 to 1889
José María Lares	1889 to 1890
Vicente Coronado	1890 to 1891
Santos Escobar	1892
General Manuel A. Matos	1892
Doctor Lorenzo Adrián Arreaza	1892
— Silvestre Pacheco Jurado	1892
— Juan Pietri	1892 to 1893
General José Antonio Velutini	1893
— Ezequiel Gondelles Ayala	1893
General José Antonio Velutini	1893

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Fabricio Conde	1893	to	1895
Enrique Pérez B.			1895
General Manuel A. Matos			1895
Andrés María Caballero			1895
Enrique Pérez B.	1895	to	1896
Doctor Claudio Bruzual Serra	1896	to	1897
Andrés María Caballero			1897
Luis A. Castillo			1897
Andrés María Caballero			1897
General Jorge Uslar, hijo			1897
Santos Escobar	1897	to	1898
General Manuel A. Matos			1898
Santos Escobar	1898	to	1899
José Antonio Olavarria			1899
Santos Escobar			1899
Doctor Juan Pablo Rojas Paúl			1899
General Ramón Tello Mendoza	1899	to	1903
Doctor José Cecilio de Castro	1903	to	1906
Andrés María Caballero			1906
Doctor Francisco de Sales Pérez			1906
Gustavo J. Sanabria			1906
Doctor Eduardo Celis	1906	to	1907
Ricardo Alvarez de Lugo			1907
Doctor Arnaldo Morales	1907	to	1908
— Jesús Muñoz Tébar	1908	to	1909
Juan J. Herrera Toro			1909
Doctor Abel Santos	1909	to	1910
Manuel Porras Echenagucia			1910
General Antonio Pimentel	1910	to	1912
Manuel Porras Echenagucia			1912
Doctor Román Cárdenas	1913	to	1922
Doctor Melchor Centeno Graü	1922, 1923, 1924	to	

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

STATEMENTS,
REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS

1830

[URBANEJA (Diego Bautista).] Report of the Secretary of Finance and Foreign Relations.

152 by 83. 62 p.

This document was dated at Valencia on April 24, 1830, year 20eth. of the Independence and 1st. of the law, addressed to His Excellency the Civil and Military Chief of the State" General Paez to be submitted to the Constituent Congress, is included in pages 35 to 43 of the pamphlet mentioned hereunder:

"Act of installation of the Constituent Congress of Venezuela. Message of the Civil and Military Chief to the Constituent Congress; Answer and Reports of the Secretaries of the Cabinet, etc., etc. [Dash] *Valencia, Venezuelan Print. Of. by Joaquin Permañer, 1830.*

1831

[MICHELENA (Santos)]. Report of the Secretary of Finance to the Congress of Venezuela in 1831.

155 by 92. 34 p.

The title page does not exist in the copy examined. The title copied heads the third page. Document dated at Valencia on May 23, 1831; 2d. and 21. The printing seems to have been made by Espinal in Caracas.

The volume in question contains in continuous numbered pages the *Report of the Secretary of War and Navy* (p. 34—64) and the *Report regarding the business of the Departments of the Interior and Justice* (p. 65—167). Said *Report of Finance* was not published as a separate pamphlet.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1832

[MICHELENA (Santos)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1832 by the Secretary of Finance regarding the business of his office [Dash] *Caracas, Valentin Espinal, [1832]*.

160 by 92. 2 p. w. n. of *Contents* plus 42 p.

The copy examined lacks title page and belongs to the library of the Department of Fomento. This *Statement* is dated in Caracas on January 20, 1832; 3rd. and 22d.

1833

[MICHELENA (Santos)]. Statement addressed by the Secretary of Finance to the Congress of Venezuela in 1833 regarding the business of his office. [Vignette] *Caracas, Valentin Espinal [1833]*.

178 by 92. 2 p. w. n. plus 30 plus 24 p. w. n. containing the General Budget of Expenditure, statistics, etc.

Title page wanting in copy examined. Document dated in Caracas on January 20, 1833; 4th. and 23rd.

1834

[DIAZ (Pedro Pablo)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1834 by the Secretary pro tempore of Finance [Vignette] *Caracas, Valentin Espinal, [1834]*.

175 by 92 p. w. n. plus 32 and x and 4 p. w. n. and 22 p. w. n. containing "Statistical Tables of the Foreign Commerce".

The title Page is as follows: *Report of Finance. 1834.* [Vignette] *Espinal Prt. Of.* Document signed January 20, 1834. 5th. and 24th.

1835

[DIAZ (Pedro Pablo)]. Statement addressed to the

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Congress of Venezuela in 1835 by the Secretary of Finance. [Vignette] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal*, [Without year].

176 by 93. 2 p. w. n. plus 26 and x and 2 p. w. n. and 20 p. w. n.

The title Page is as Follows: *Report of Finance. 1835.* [Vignette] *Espinal Prt. Of.*

1836

[GALLEGOS (Jose Eusebio)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1836. The Secretary of Finance. [Vignette] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal*, 1836.

170 by 95. 2 p. w. n. plus 44 and 10 p. w. n. and xxxviii and 20 p. w. n.

Signed on Jan. 20, 1836. The Tit. p. says: *Report of Finance. 1836.* [Vignette] *Caracas*, etc.

1837

[GALLEGOS (Jose Eusebio)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1837 by the Secretary of Finance. [Vignette] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal*, 1837.

191 by 103. 2 p. w. n. plus 28 and 12 p. w. n. and xxxi and 20 p. w. n.

Tit. p. wanting in copy examined in Nat. Lib. The *Statement* is dated on Jan. 18, 1837; 8th. and 27th.

1838

[SMITH (Guillermo)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1838 by the Secretary of Finance. [Vignette] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal*, 1838.

188 by 103. 2 p. w. n. plus 20 and xxiv and 22 p. w. n.

Dated Jan. 20, 1838. Copy at Nat. Lib. lacks Tit. Page.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1839

[SMITH (Guillermo)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1839 by the Secretary of Finance.
[Vignette] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal, 1839.*

188 by 103. 2 p. w. n. plus 36 and cxxii p.

Dated on Jan. 20, 1839. Tit. p. says: *Report of Finance, 1839.*

[Vignette] *Caracas, etc.* In pages 33 to 36 is included the *Statement of the Public Credit Commission.*

1840

[SMITH (Guillermo)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1840 by the Secretary of Finance.
[Vignette] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal, 1840.*

195 by 103. 2 p. w. n. plus 24 and xxiii and 20 p. w. n. and 76 p. with two tables.

Dated on Jan. 20, 1840. The Tit. P. says: *Report of Finance, 1840.* [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, etc.* The last 76 pages contain the decrees and resolutions of the Government on Finance and the Reports of the superior offices of Finance and of the economic boards.

1841

[SMITH (Guillermo)]. Report addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1841 by the Secretary of Finance.
[Vignette] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal, 1841.*

200 by 102. 2 p. w. n. plus 24 and xviii and 24 p. w. n. and 80 p.

Dated Jan. 20, 1841; 12th. and 31st. The Tit. P. reads: *Report of Finance, 1841.* [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, etc.*

1842

[ARANDA (Francisco)]. Statement addressed to the

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Congress of Venezuela of 1842 by the Secretary of Finance.
[Vignette] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal, 1842.*

198 by 102. 2 p. w. n. plus 42 by p. w. n. and 83 p.

Dated on Jan. 20, 1842. Tit. p.: *Report of Finance. 1842.*
[Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, etc.*

1843

[ARANDA (Francisco)]. Statement addressed to the
Congress of Venezuela in 1843 by the Secretary of Finance.
[Vignette] *Caracas, Vicente Espinal, 1843.*

198 by 102. 2 p. w. n. and 54 and 26 p. w. n. and 52 p.

Tit. P.: *Report of Finance. 1843.* [Arms of the Republic] *Ca-
racas, etc.* This *Statement* is dated on Jan. 19, 1843.

1844

[ARANDA (Francisco)]. Statement addressed to the
Congress of Venezuela in 1844 by the Secretary of Finance.
[Armas of the Republic] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal, 1844.*

198 by 102. 2 p. w. n. and 52 and 22 p. w. n.

Dated Jan. 24, 1844; 15th. and 34th. Tit. p. within two con-
centric circles reads: *Report of Finance.*

1845

[MANRIQUE (Juan Manuel)]. Statemente addressed
to the Congress of Venezuela in 1845 by the Secretary of
Finance. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Valentín Espinal,
1845.*

201 by 102. 2 p. w. n. and 54 and 6 p. w. n. and vii and 4 and
7 and 30 p. w. n.

Dated Jan. 20, 1845. Tit. p. reads: *Republic of Venezuela.
Report of Finance. 1845.*

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1846

[MANRIQUE (Juan Manuel)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1846 by the Secretary of Finance. [Vignette] *Caracas, Bolivian Print. Of. by Domingo Salazar, 1846.*

201 by 110. 2 p. w. n. and 34 and 4 p. w. n. and xix and 24 p. w. n. and 36 p.

Dated Jan. 20, 1846. Tit. P.: *Report of Finance. [Arms of the Republic] 1846. Caracas, etc.*

1847

[MANRIQUE (Juan Manuel)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1847 by the Secretary of Finance. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Bolivian Print. of by Domingo Salazar, 1847.*

206 by 110. 2 p. w. n. and 34 and 4 p. w. n. and xviii and 40 p. w. n. and 40 p.

Dated Jan. 20, 1847. Tit. P.: *Report of Finance. 1847. [Vignette] Caracas, etc.*

1848

[ACEVEDO (Rafael)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1848 by the Secretary of Finance. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Fortunato Corvaia, 1848.*

201 by 125. 2 p. w. n. and 34 and 52 p. w. n.

Dated Jan. 20, 1848. Tit. P.: *Report of Finance. 1848. [Vignette] Caracas, etc.*

1849

[CABALLERO (Diego Antonio)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1849 by the Secretary

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

of Finance [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, F. Corvaia, 1849.*

198 by 114. 2 p. w. n. and 28 and 14 and 42 p.

Dated Jan. 20, 1849. Tit. P.: *Report of Finance. 1849.* [The same arms] *Caracas, etc.*

1850

[LECUNA (Vicente)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1850 by the Secretary of Finance. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Print. Off. of "El Patriota" by Adres A. Figueira, 1850.*

195 by 120. 2 p. w. n. and 34 and 80 p. w. n.

This *Statement* bears no date. The Title Page is garnished with and edging and reads: *Report of Finance. 1850.* [Vignette] *Caracas, etc.*

1851

[LECUNA (Vicente)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1851 by the Secretary of Finance. [Arms to the Republic] *Caracas, F. Antonio Alvarez, 1851.*

202 by 122. 16 and 72 p. w. n.

Dated Jan. 18, 1851; 22nd. and 41. The Tit. P. reads: *Report of Finance. 1851.* [Vignette] *Caracas, etc.*

1852

[GELLINEAU (Pedro Carlos)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1852 by the Secretary of Finance. *Caracas, Briceño & Campbell, [1852].*

192 by 114. 40 and 40 p. w. n. and 24 p.

Tit. P. equal in both; lines of title within arabesques. The *Statement* dated Jan. 20, 1852.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1853

[GELLINEAU (Pedro Carlos)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1853 by the Secretary of Finance. *Caracas, Briceño & Campbell, [1853]*.

197 by 115. 36 and 46 p. w. n. and viii p.

The copy examined at the Nat. Lib. has no title page. The title printed within arabesques. The *Statement* dated Jan. 20, 1853.

1854

[CEBALLOS (Pio)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1854 by the Secretary of Finance. *Caracas, Office of the Theatre of Legislation, [1854]*.

195 by 115. 22 and 52 p. w. n. and viii p.

Tit. P. equal; title within arabesques.

1855

[CEBALLOS (Pio)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1855 by the Secretary of Finance. *Pedro C. del Castillo, Office of the Theatre of Legislation, [1855]*.

192 by 115. 30 and 242 p. w. n.

Tit. P. equal; tit. within arabesques. *Statement* dated Jan. 20, 1855.

1856

[GUTIERREZ (Jacinto)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1856 by the Secretary of Finance. [Vignette] *Caracas, Jesus Maria Soriano & Co., 1856*.

247 by 148. 2 p. w. n. and 82 and 40 p. w. n. and 12 (Pro-

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

posed Finance Code) and 20 (Proposed Customs Code) and 4 (Proposed Public Credit Code) and 2 (Proposed law on public lands) and 12 (Proposed law on stamped paper, post office tariff and metric system) and 12 p. w. n. (Statement of the Public Credit Commision and other documents).

Tis Tit. P. is lacking in the copy examined at the Pub. Lib. Statement signed on Jan. 20, 1856.

1857

[GUTIERREZ (Jacinto)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1857 by the Secretary of Finance. [Arms of the Republic] Caracas, Jesus Maria Soriano, 1857.

210 by 135 p. w. n. and 48 and 58 p. w. n.

Dated Jan. 20, 1857. The Tit. P. wanting in the copy examined at the Nat. Library.

1858

The Constitucional Congress of this year was installed on February 2. Together with the Message of General Jose Tadeo Monagas, President of the Republic, the Secretaries of State presented their respective Reports of their Departments. At the National Library there is a volume, bound a long time ago containing that of the Interior and Justice, of Foreign Relations and of War and Navy. That of Finance is not to be found either in the Fomento library or in any other library. Therefore it is impossible to make here its description.

Dr. Gonzalez Guinan, when he narrates the events of 1858 in his *Contemporary History* states in page 127 of Volume VI: "The Secretary of Finance states how distressful is the condition of the public treasury and submits to the Chambers

the necessary data for its reorganization". But Mr. Andres A. Level in a note on page 335 of the *Report of the General Section of Statistics*, which he submitted to the National Executive in 1874, seems to deny in the following terms the publication of said volume: "The Report of 56 to 57 was not submitted to Congress in 58 and although in the same year the National Convention met, the Report of Finance which was submitted does not contain the statistical tables".

During the month of March 1858 the revolution which had as leader General Julian Castro overthrew the Government of General Monagas. The new order of things convoked a National Convention which met at Valencia on July 5 of the same year and to that Convention were submitted the Reports of the Secretaries of State. To that of Finance refers the following document:-

[HERRERA (Miguel)]. Statement addressed to the National Convention of Venezuela in 1858 by the Secretary of Finance. [Arms of the Republic] *Valencia, Steam Print. Of. of M. M. Zarzamendi, 1858.*

165 by 93. 2 p. w. n. and 72 and cxv p.

Tit. P. with ornamental border. Title: *Report of Finance. 1858. Valencia, etc. Statement dated October 27, 1858.*

1859

The National Convention which met at Valencia in 1858 extended its sessions until February 3, 1859 and according to the Constitution voted on December 31 and promulgated in Caracas on January 6 of the said year the new Congress was to meet in January 1860. For this reason there were no *Reports* in 1859.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1860

[LAS CASAS (Pedro de)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1860 by the Secretary of Finance. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Jesus Maria Soriano, 1860.*

185 by 108. 90 and xxxviii and 152 and 4 p. w. n. of index and 2 tables in separate leaves.

This *Report* is not to be found in the collection of the Nat. Lib. and the copy of the Dep. of Fomento has no title page. The *Report* is dated March 25, 1860.

1861

[CADENAS DELGADO (Manuel)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of Venezuela in 1861 by the Secretary of Finance. [Vignette] *Caracas, Jesus Maria Soriano, 1861.*

182 by 108. 114 and xxxviii and 204 and 4 p. w. n. of index.

Tit. P. selvaged. Title: *Report of Finance. Caracas, etc.* Document dated Jan. 30, 1861.

Due to its close relation to a financial question of the epoch the following is inserted here:

SESSIONS OF THE CHAMBERS MEETING IN CONGRESS on March 25, 26 and 27, 1861 regarding the negotiation in London. *Caracas, El Heraldo Print. Of., 1861.*

A pamphlet of 45 p. The Tit. P. is wanting in the copy existing in Dep. of Finance.

1862

The Dictatorship assumed by General Paez in September 1861 replaced the legal rule established by the Constitut-

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

ion of 1859. The Legislative Chambers not having met in 1862 the Reports of the Secretaries of State could not be submitted and were not even prepared nor edited.

1863

[GUZMAN BLANCO (Antonio)]. Report addressed to the National Assembly of the Venezuelan Federation in 1863 by the Secretary of Finance. [Vignette] *Caracas, Felix E. Bigotte, 1863.*

167 by 100. 64 and cliv p. and 2 tables and 6 p. w. n. of index.

The Tit. P. within a selvage reads: *Report of Finance. 1863.*
[Vignette] *Caracas, etc.*

1864

Immediately after the victory of the Federal Revolution General Falcon who led it convoked a National Constituent Assembly which met in provisional Committee on December 10, 1863 and was definitely installed on the 24th. of the same month. It closed its sessions on April 8, 1864 and according to the Constitution which prevailed in the country the National Legislature was to meet on February 20 of every year or the most immediately following. Therefore in 1864 the act of submitting the *Reports* did not take place.

1865

[LANDAETA (Jose Dolores)]. Report addressed to the National Legislature of 1865 by the Minister of Finance. *Caracas, Pedro P. del Castillo & Sons, 1865.*

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

175 by 94. 69 and 179 p. and 8 tables.

Dated February 28, 1865; 2nd. and 7th. In the copy examined at the Nat. Lib. there is no Tit. P.

1866

[LANDAETA (Jose Dolores)]. Statement addressed to the National Legislature by the Minister of Finance in 1866. *Caracas, Pedro P. del Castillo & Sons, 1866.*

171 by 94. xxxix and 185 and 42 p. w. n. with Statistical tables and 24 and 20 p. w. n. and 38 and xxiv p.

The Title Page is beautifully lithographed by G. Laue. Besides the title it contains the following motto: Peace and purity in the handling of public funds produce order and progress. This *Statement* is dated on February 20, 1866; 2nd. and 8th.

1867

[SILVA (Nicolas)]. Statement which is submitted by the Minister of Finance in 1867 to the National Legislature. *Caracas, Pedro P. del Castillo & Sons, 1867.*

168 by 93. 67 p. and 23 statistical tables in separate leaves and lvi p.

The Tit. P. is bordered and the *Statement* is dated February 20, 1867.

[LANDAETA (Jose Dolores)]. Declaration of the Minister of Finance and Public Credic in 1866. [Vignette] *Caracas, Printing Office of the United States of Venezuela, 1867.*

168 by 100. ii and 126 p.

The author of this publication, dated December 22, 1866, defends his acts as Minister of Finance and Public Credit. Although Lan-

daeta was removed from the latter Department by decree of September 11 of said year, it is included in this bibliography because it contains official documents having their origin in said Departments.

1868

Notwithstanding that the civil war was prevalent in the country since 1867 the preparatory Commissions of the Legislative Chambers met on February 20, 1868 and the final installation of Congress took place on April 2 following. The divisions which were effected in the Chamber of Deputies and produced the interruption of its labors, obliged the Senate to stop its sessions and those of Congress on the 30eth. of the same month without having received the *Reports*.

With reference to this matter Doctor Gonzalez Guinan in page 119 of the IXth. volume of the *Contemporary History of Venezuela* says:-

“Those Reports were not submitted and it is likely that they were not even printed, because we have tried to find out where they could be obtained and have not been successful in our efforts. We have requested information from the public officials and printers of that time and none knew said *Reports*”.

1869

[SANTANA (Marcos)]. Report which the Minister of Finance submits to the Federal Congress of Venezuela in 1869. *Caracas, Espinal & Sons, 1869.*

174 by 93. 224 p. and 14 Tables in separate leaves and 1 p. of index.

Dated Jan. 1st. of the same year. Tit. P. with border. Title: *Report of Finance. 1869. Caracas, etc.*

1870

ACCOUNT OF THE PUBLIC CREDIT during the fiscal years of 1867 to 1869. [At the beginning of the title:] Section of Accounting. *Caracas, Evaristo Fombona, 1870.*

170 by 100. 96 p. and 50 models and tables in separate leaves.

Tit. P. bordered with title equal to that of the tit. p. The different copies examined are not complete because the document which ends on p. 96 is mutilated. Mr. Juan Bautista Vidal, Director of Accounting in the Department of Finance, author of the models and observations therein contained seems to be the author of the mentioned book.

1870 to 1872

Notwithstanding that Caracas was occupied on April 27, 1870 by the revolution lead by General Guzman Blanco, the civil war which desolated the country for a long time went on until 1872. It was in June of this year when peace having been reestablished the electoral process could be commenced. The Congress elected at the time met on February 1873 and to it did General Guzman Blanco submit as will be seen further on the *Account* corresponding to the period of his Dictatorship. Therefore there were no Ministerial *Reports* in the years 1870, 1871, and 1872.

1873

[GOITICOA (Santiago)]. Statement addressed to the President of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1873. *Caracas, Print. Of. Evaristo Fombona, 1873.*

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

220 by 132. 53 p. and 27 tables in separate leaves and lxxi p.

Dated Feb. 20, 1873. Tit. P. equal to first p.

Although not emanating from the Dep. of Finance it is convenient to examine the following volumes because they contain many documents thereto relating.

GUZMAN BLANCO. Documents of the Account rendered by General — —, as Provisional President of the Republic to the Constitucional Congress of 1873. Caracas, Print. Of. of "La Opinion Nacional". 1873.

217 by 133. 24 p. contain Message to Congress and 2 p. w. n. and 911 p. of documents.

The Tit. P. differs only from the first page in the border adorning the first.

Annexed to this work a volume of 169 p. (217 by 133) was published entitled: *Key for the better handling of this book*, and consists of the indexes formed in a chronologic and alphabetic manner corresponding to the documents which are mentioned herein before.

[PIMENTEL Y ROTH (Francisco)]. Chronologic Résumé of the Laws and Decrees of the Public Credit of Venezuela since 1826; General Account up to December 31, 1872; Liquidation of all Contracts since 1864, preceeded by a Résumé of them, and Demonstration Tables of the transactions of the Public Credit by the Minister of the branch — —. Caracas, "La Opinión Nacional", 1873.

218 by 132. 2 p. w. n. and cxxxix and 412 p.

The copy examined at the Nat. Lib. has no Tit. P.

1874

[GOITICOA (Santiago)]. Statement addressed to the

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1874. *Caracas*, Print. Of. of "La Concordia" of Evaristo Fombona, 1874.

215 by 132. lxvii and 177 p.

The Title copied within a border forms the Tit. P. Dated Feb. 20, 1874; year 10th. of the Law and 15th. of the Federation.

1875

[GOITICOA (Santiago)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States Venezuela of by the Minister of Finance in 1875. *Caracas*, "La Opinión Nacional", 1875.

222 by 128. lxxii and 361 p.

Dated on March 20, 1875. Tit. P. wanting in copy examined at Pub. Lib.

1876

[CORONADO (Vicente)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1876. *Caracas*, "La Opinion Nacional", 1876.

220 by 131. lix and 371 p.

Dated on February 20, 1876. Tit. P. bordered and printed in two colors.

1877

[TOLEDO BERMUDEZ (Pedro)]. Statement ad-

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

dressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1877. *Caracas, Steam Print. Of. of "La Opinion Nacional"*. 1877.

215 by 131. lxxxix and 353 p.

Title copied within a border is the Tit. P. Dated Feb. 20, 1877.

In the same year was published an interesting volume with reference to the following:

COMMISSION OF PUBLIC ESTATE. Report furnished by direction of General Guzman Blanco, Illustrious American, Regenerator and Constitutional President of the United States of Venezuela and submitted to the Minister of Finance by the — — on January 30, 1877. *Caracas, Steam Print. Of. of "La Opinion Nacional"*, 1877.

222 by 131. 651 p. and 1 p. errata and 1 lithographed plan.

The Commission which submitted the *Report* was created by decree of Dec. 20, 1875.

1878

[CELIS AVILA (Trinidad)]. Statement addressed by the Minister of Finance of the United States of Venezuela to the National Congress in 1878. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Of. of Pedro Coll Otero*, 1878.

213 by 128. lxviii and 416 p. Tit. P. bordered.

1879

Due to the fact that the constitucional order was interrupted this year the *Reports* were not submitted. Once more

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

in 1878 civil war had made its appearance in Venezuela. At the beginning of 1879 the revolution was victorious and was called the *Repleving* one and which had acknowledged General Guzman Blanco, as Supreme Director, who by decree of February 27 convoked a Congress of Plenipotentiaries of the States. This Assembly met in Caracas on April 27 following and among other things directed that elections should be effected for Senators and Deputies to the National Legislature which was to be installed on February 20, 1880.

1880

[ROJAS PAUL (Juan Pablo)]. Account given to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1880. *Caracas, Print. Of. of the "Official Gazette", 1880.*

215 by 128. 3 volumes. Vol. I: xcvi and 615 and 2 p. w. n. of index.—Vol. II: 707 p. and 2 p. w. n. of index.—Vol. III: 838 and 4 p. w. n. of index and errata. The two last Volumes have a subtitle as follow: *Fiscal Report of the Commission of National Estate.*

The *Account* is dated February 20, 1880; 16th. and 21st. and the *Report* signed by Mr. Jose Dolores Landaeta: March 25, of the same year. The copy examined at the Nat. Lib. had no Tit. P.

The same year was edited the volume to which the following note refers, related to documents of the Finances of Venezuela:

DOCUMENTS regarding the ratification of the Fiscal Agreement of January 24, 1880. Published by order of the Illustrious American, President of the Republic. *Caracas, Steam Print. Of. of "La Opinion Nacional". 1880.*

213 by 130. 152 p.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1881

[ROJAS PAUL (Juan Pablo)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1881. *Caracas, Steam Print. Of. of "La Opinion Nacional"*, [1881].

217 by 130. lxxxii and 662 p. Dated Feb. 20, 1881.

1882

[ROJAS PAUL (Juan Pablo)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela in 1882 by the Minister of Finance. *Caracas, Steam Print. Of. of "La Opinion Nacional"*. [1882].

215 by 130. lxv and 629 p. The *Account* dated Feb. 20, 1882. Tit. P. title copied and within a border.

1883

[ROJAS PAUL (Juan Pablo)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela in 1883 by the Minister of Finance. *Caracas, Steam Print. Of. of "La Opinion Nacional"*, 1883.

213 by 130. lxviii and 825 p. Doc. dated Feb. 20, 1883.

1884

[CABALLERO (Andres María)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

in 1884 by the Minister of Finance. *Caracas, Steam Print. Of.* of "La Opinión Nacional". [1884].

220 by 130. lii and 933 and lxviii and v p. Dated Feb. 20, 1884.

1885

[RIVAS CASTILLO (Francisco)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela in 1885 by the Minister of Finance. Official Edition. *Caracas, National Printing Office.* [1885].

214 by 127. lx and 928 and vii p. In the copy examined at the Nat. Lib. the Title P. is wanting.

1886

[RIVAS CASTILLO (Francisco)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela in 1886 by the Minister of Finance. Official Edition. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.* [1886].

205 by 128. ix and 817 p. Doc. dated Feb. 20, 1886.

1887

[AZPURUA HUIZI (Pedro Pablo)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela in 1887 by the Minister of Finance. Of. Edition. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1887.

210 by 127. xxxii and 807 p. Dated Feb. 20, 1887.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1888

[RAMOS (Pedro)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela in 1888 by the Minister of Finance. Official edition, *Caracas, Print. & Lit. Off. of the National Government*, 1888.

208 by 128. xxxii and 989 p.

1889

[LARES (Jose Maria)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela in 1889 by the Minister of Finance. Official Edition. *Caracas, Editorial House of "La Opinion Nacional"*, 1889.

217 by 130. xxxiv and 1.003 p. Dated Feb. 20, 1889. Doc. examined at Nat. Lib. has no Tit. P.

1890

[LARES (Jose Maria)]. Account addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela in 1890 by the Minister of Finance, Official Edition. *Caracas, Edt. House of "La Opinion Nacional"*, 1890.

216 by 130. xxxviii and 866. p. Doc. dated Feb. 20, 1890. Copy at Nat. Lib. has no Tit. P.

1891

[CORONADO (Vicente)]. Statement addressed to

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1891. *Caracas, Bolívar Printing Office*, 1891.

221 by 128. lxxxviii and 627 and 32 p. Doc. dated Feb. 20, 1891. No Tit. P. in copy at Nat. Lib.

1892

[CRONADO (Vicente)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1892. *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Off.*, 1892.

222 by 128. ciii and 633 and 23 p. Doc. dated Jan. 19, 1892.

1893

[VELUTINI (Jose Antonio)]. Statement addressed by the Minister of Finance to the Chief of the National Executive Power in 1893. *Caracas, Nat. Printing and Lit. Office*, 1893.

203 by 128. 128 p.

Document dated April 30, 1893. Due to the data it contains the following document is included here.

[CRESPO (Joaquin)]. Account rendered to the National Assembly of 1893 by General — —, in his capacity of Chief of the Revolution and in charge of the Executive Power. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Office*, 1893.

212 by 128. 56 and 14 p. of *Appendix*.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1894

[CONDE (Fabricio)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1894. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Off.*, 1894.

212 by 128. 2 Volumes. I: lxxix and 284 and 8 p.—II: 416 and 15 p. Dated February 20, 1894.

1895

[CONDE (Fabricio)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1895. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Off.*, 1895.

212 by 128. 2 Volumes. Vol. I: xlix and 648 and 8 p.—Vol. II: 425 p. Dated February 20, 1895.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE. Appendix to the Report of Finance of 1895. Report submitted to the Minister of Finance by the Bank of Venezuela regarding the Administration of the Salt works of the Republic during the fiscal year of 1893 to 1894. Accompanied by the general statistics of the branch and other data regarding the branch of Salt works compilated in said institute. At the beginning of the title: Salt works. *Caracas, Modern Print. Off.*, 1895.

210 by 126. 127 p.

1896

[PEREZ BRITO (Henrique)]. Statement addressed

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1896. *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Off.*, 1896.

211 by 128. 2 Volumes. Vol. I: lxxi and 685 and xxxiv p.—Vol. II: 366 and xv p. Dated February 20, 1896.

1897

[BRUZUAL SERRA (Claudio)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1897. *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Off.*, 1897.

211 by 128. 2 Volumes. Vol. I: lxxvii and 644 and li p.—Vol. II: 322 and 107 p. This *Statement* is dated Feb. 20, 1897.

1898

[ESCOBAR (Santos)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1898. *Caracas, "Caraqueña" Print. Off.*, 1898.

213 by 128. 2 volumes in one vol. Vol. I: lxi and 391 and xv p. Vol. II: 225 and 4 p. w. n. Dated February 20, 1898.

[MATOS (Manuel Antonio)]. Appendix to the statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1898. *Caracas, Print. Off. del Comercio*, 1898.

215 by 128. 255 p.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1899

[ESCOBAR (Santos)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1899. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Off.*, 1899.

215 by 128. 2 volumes. Vol. I: lxvi and 502 p.—Vol. II: 353 and 114 p. Doc. dated Feb. 20, 1899. No Tit. P. in copy examined at Nat. Library.

1900

The revolution known by the name of the reinstatement which began in May 1899 was victorious in October of the same year. General Cipriano Castro who was its chief by decree of October 3, 1900 convoked a National Constituent Assembly for February 1901. Therefore there was no occasion to submit the ministerial *Reports*.

1901

[CASTRO (Cipriano)]. The Supreme Chief of the United States of Venezuela to the National Constituent Assembly of 1901. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Nat. Print. Office*, 1901.

206 by 128. 66 p.

Besides this document dated February 20, 1901 there are of the same year two publications inserted hereinafter containing likewise data concerning Finances and the Public Credit; viz.:

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

[ALVAREZ DE LUGO (Ricardo)]. Report of the Section of the Treasury of the Department of Finance. *Caracas, Arauca Print.* Of. 1901.

213 by 128. 26 and 4 p. w. n. Doc. dated Jan. 11, 1901.

NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF 1901. Publication made by direction of General Cipriano Castro, Provisional President of the Republic. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Bolivar Printing Office*, 1901.

210 by 128. 550 p.

1902

[TELLO MENDOZA (Ramon)]. Statement addressed to the Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1902. *Caracas, Arauca Print. Office*, 1902.

210 by 128. 80 p. Dated December 31, 1902.

1903

[TELLO MENDOZA (Ramon)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1903. *Caracas, Print. Off. of J. M. Herrera Irigoyen & Co.*, 1903.

218 by 126. 50 and ii p. Dated March, 18, 1903.

1904

[CASTRO (Jose Cecilio de)]. Statement addressed to

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1904. Official Edition. *Caracas, Universal Print. Office, 1904.*

210 by. 125. xlivi and 226 p. Doc. dated Feb. 27, 1904.

1905

[CASTRO (Jose Cecilio de)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1905. Official Edition. *Caracas, Universal Print. Office, 1905.*

210 by 126. 9 and lxxiv and 343 p. Dated May 23, 1905.

1906

The Constitution which was sanctioned by the Constituent Congress of 1904 provides in Article 38 the meeting of the Legislative Chambers every two years. Article 86 of said constitution provides that "the Ministers shall render an account to the Chambers every two years within the first ten days of their ordinary sessions in Reports reasoned and supported by documents of what they may have done or intend to do in their respective branches".

During the time that the said Constitution was in force (1904-1909) the recess of Congress corresponded to 1906 and 1908. For this reason there are no *Reports* for these years.

1907

[CELIS (Eduardo)]. Statement addressed to the Nat-

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

ional Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1907. Official Edition. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1907.*

209 by 128. 739 and xxvii p.

The Title is as follows: *Report of the Finance Department addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela in 1907.*

Document dated May 23, 1907.

1908

According to the provision of the Constitution of 1904 the Chambers did not meet in 1908. See note corresponding to 1906.

1909

[MUÑOZ TEBAR (Jesus)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1909. Official Edition. *Caracas, Universal Print. Office, 1909.*

210 by 126. ciii and 768 p.

Tit. P. equal to first p. but the preceding page reads: *Report of Finance and Public Credit.* Dated March 31, 1909.

1910

[SANTOS (Abel)]. Statement addressed to the Nat-

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

ional Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1910. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1910.*

200 by 122. lxxxi and 572 and xxx p.

Document dated April 19, 1910.

1911

[PIMENTEL (Antonio)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1911. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1911.*

200 by 122. xc and 856 and 2 plans and xxiv p.

Dated April 19, 1911.

1912

[PIMENTEL (Antonio)]. Statement addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the Minister of Finance in 1912. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1912.*

200 by 122. cxlix and 784 and xxii p. and 1 table.

Document dated April 19, 1912.

1913

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report addressed to the National Congress of the United States of Venezuela by the

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Minister of Finance and Public Credit in 1913. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Print. Off. Enterprise El Cojo, 1913.*

212 by 130. a to h p. and xci and 650 and xxii p.

Document dated April 19, 1913.

1914

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report of Finance corresponding to the year from March 19, 1913 to March 19, 1914. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise Print. Off., 1914.*

218 by 135. 2 p. w. n. and a to j p. and cxl and 607 p.

Dated April 19, 1914.

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. General Account of the Department of Finance corresponding to the fiscal year of 1912 to 1913 and Expense Account of the same Department during the half year from July to December 1913. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning od the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off., 1914.*

218 by 135. a to e p. and lxxx and 430 p.

Statement dated April 19, 1914.

1915

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report of Finance corresponding to the year comprised between March 19, 1914

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

and March 19, 1915. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Print. Off. Enterprise El Cojo, 1915.*

218 by 135. 15 folios marked with capital letters A to O and
cli and 610 p. Dated April 19, 1915.

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. General Account of the Revenue and Expenditure and expense account of the Department of Finance during the fiscal year 1913 to 1914. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off., 1915.*

218 by 135. a to f p. and cxxviii and 359 p.

Statement dated April 19, 1915.

1916

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report of Finance addressed to the National Congress in its sessions of 1916. It contains the acts of the Department during the civil year of 1915. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Print. Of., Enterprise El Cojo, 1916.*

218 by 135. 9 folios with cap. letters A to I and clxxiv and
821 p. Dated April 19, 1916.

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. General account of Revenue and Expenditure and expenditure account of the Department of Finance during the fiscal year from 1914 to 1915.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Provisional statement of both accounts during the half year from July to December 1915. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1916.

218 by 135. a to g p. and 8 and ix-clxxiv and 314 p. Dated April 19, 1916.

1917

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report of Finance addressed to the National Congress in its sessions of 1917. Contains the acts of the Department during the civil year of 1916. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the Title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise Print. Off.*, 1917.

215 by 135. 12 folios marked A to L and cxliv and 817 p.

Dated April 19, 1917.

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. General Account of Revenue and Expenditure, Expenditure account of the Department of Finance and Account of the National Estate corresponding to the fiscal year from 1915 to 1916. Provisional accounts of the half year from July to December 1916. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1917.

218 by 135. a to n p. and clxxv and 344 p. Dated April 19, 1917.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1918

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report of Finance addressed to the National Congress in its sessions of 1918. Contains the acts of the Department during the civil year of 1917. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, El Cojo Print. Off. Enterprise, 1918.*

215 by 135. 10 folios marked A to J and clv and 668 p. and 2 blank. Dated April 19, 1918.

CARDENAS (Roman)]. General Account of Revenue and Expenditure, Expenditure account of the Department of Finance and Account of National Estate corresponding to the Fiscal year of 1916 to 1917. Propisional accounts during the half year of July to December 1917. [Arms of the Republic at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off., 1918.*

215 by 135. a to l p. and clxxxvii and 327 p. Dated April 19, 1918.

1919

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report of Finance addressed to the National Congress in its sessions of 1919. Contains the acts of the Department in the civil year of 1918. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, El Cojo Print. Off. Enterprise, 1919.*

215 by 135. 8 folios marked A to H and cxxxvi and 694 p. and 2 blank. Dated April 19, 1919.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. General Account of Revenue and Expenditure, Account of Expenditure of the Department of Finance and Account of National Estate corresponding to the fiscal year of 1917 to 1918. Provisional accounts during the half year of July to December 1918. (Arms of the Republic and at the beginning to the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1919.

218 by 135. a to 1 p. and clxlv and 333 p. and 3 p. blank.
Dated April 19, 1919.

1920

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report of Finance addressed to the National Congress in its sessions of 1920. Contains the acts of the Department during the civil year of 1919. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Print. Of., Enterprise El Cojo*, 1916.

215 by 135. 14 folios marked A to M and cl and 583 p. Dated April 19, 1920.

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. General Account of Revenue and Expenditure, Account of Expenditure of the Department of Finance and Account of National Estate corresponding to the fiscal year of 1918 to 1919. Provisional accounts in the half year of July to December 1919. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1920.

218 by 135. a to 11 p. and ccxi and 3 blank pages and 335 p.
Dated April 19, 1920.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1921

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report of Finance addressed to the National Congress in its sessions of 1921. Contains the acts of the Department in the civil year of 1920. [Arms. of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, El Cojo Print. Off. Enterprise*, 1921.

215 by 135. 14 folios marked A to M p. and clxiv and 600 p. and 2 blank p. Dated April 19, 1921.

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. General Account of Revenue and Expenditure, Account of Expenditure of the Department of Finance and Account of National Estate corresponding to the fiscal year of 1919 to 1920. Provisional accounts in the half year of July to December 1920. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1921.

218 by 135. a to n p. and ccxi and 3 blk. and 333 p. and 3 blk.
Dated April 19, 1921.

1922

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. Report of Finance addressed to the National Congress in its sessions of 1922. Contains the acts of the Department in the civil year of 1921. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print., Off.*, 1922.

220 by 135. 15 folios marked A to N and cviii and 620 p.
Dated April 19, 1922.

[CARDENAS (Roman)]. General Account of Revenue and Expenditure, Account of Expenditure of the Department of Finance and Account of National Estate corresponding to the fiscal year of 1920 to 1921. Provisional accounts of the half year from July to December 1921. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1922.

218 by 135. a to p. and 2 blk. p. and ccxiii and 357 p. and 3 blk. p. Dated April 19, 1922.

1923

[CENTENO GRAÜ (Melchor)]. Report of Finance addressed to the National Congress in its sessions of 1923. Contains the acts of the Department in the civil year of 1922. [Arms of the Republic at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Of.*, 1923.

220 by 135. 13 folios marked A to Ll and cxvi and 566 p. and 10 plates color illustrations inserted in the text containing the reproductions of the new Fiscal Stamps and graphic illustrations of the National Revenue, and of cigarette, stamps, stamped paper, sale of official publications, stamps for matches, register dues, inheritance taxes, vacant inheritances and National Liquor Revenue.

This document is dated April 19, 1923.

[CENTENO GRAÜ (Melchor)]. General Account of Revenue and Expenditure, Account of the Expenditure of the Department of Finance and Account of National Estate corresponding to the fiscal year of 1921 to 1922. Provisional accounts of the half year of July to Decembre 1922. [Arms

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1923.

218 by 135. a to o p. and ccxv and 351 p. Document dated April 19, 1923.

1924

[CENTENO GRAÜ (Melchor)]. Report of Finance addressed to the National Congress in its sessions of 1924. Contains the acts of the Department in the civil year of 1923. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1924.

220 by 135. 9 folios marked A to I and lxxxviii p. and 522 and 2 blk. p. Dated April 19, 1924.

[CENTENO GRAÜ (Melchor)]. General Account of Public Revenue and Expenditure, Account of the Expenditure of the Department of Finance and Account of National Estate corresponding to the fiscal year of 1922 to 1923. Provisional accounts of the half year from July to December 1923. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of the title:] United States of Venezuela. *Caracas, Americana, Print. Off.*, 1924.

218 by 135. a to n p. and 3 blk. p. and ccxv and 359 p. Document dated April 19, 1924.

LAWS OF THE BUDGET

Not all the Laws of the Budget are inserted hereinafter because those not included have not been found. All may be consulted in the corresponding numbers of the *Official Gazette*.

BUDGET LAW for the fiscal year 1865 to 1866. [Caracas] Imp. of *El Porvenir*. [Without year].

255 by 150. 21 p.

BUDGET LAW for the year 1867 to 1868. *Caracas*, Espinal Print. Off. [W. y.].

187 by 100. 16 p. Title within two lines.

LAW OF THE GENERAL BUDGET OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE for the fiscal year 1873 to 1874. Official Edition. *Caracas*, "La Opinion Nacional", 1873.

220 by 133. 44 p. The first page reads: *Budget Law for the Fiscal year 1873 to 1874*.

LAW OF THE GENERAL BUDGET OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE for the fiscal year 1876 to 1877. Official Edition. *Caracas*, "La Opinion Nacional", 1876.

216 by 130. 86 p. and 1 p. w. n. of errata. The first page wanting in copy examined at Nat. Library.

BUDGET LAW for the fiscal year 1878 to 1879.

216 by 130. 91 p. In the firts page the title is copied between two lines. No title page and no printers mark.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

LAW OF THE GENERAL BUDGET OF REVENUE EXPENDITURE for the fiscal year 1879 to 1880. Official Edition. Caracas, *Print. Of. of "La Gaceta Oficial"*, 1879.

212 by 128. 80 p. The title page reads: *Law of the Budget for the fiscal year 1879 to 1880. Caracas, etc.*

LAW OF THE GENERAL BUDGET OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE for the fiscal year 1880 to 1881. Caracas, "La Opinión Nacional", [W. y.].

218 by 130. 77 p. Title p. equal to first p.

PROVISIONAL BUDGET OF MONTHLY EXPENDITURE. 1893. Caracas, *Nat. Print. Office*. 1893.

210 by 128. 80 p. and 2 p. w. n. Corresponds to *Budget* of the month of April.

ANNUAL BUDGET OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE. Caracas, *Nat. Print. Office*, [1893].

215 by 128. 103 p. Decreed by the Chief of the National Executive on October 4, 1893.

BUDGET OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE for the fiscal year 1895 to 1896. Caracas, *Bolívar Print. Of.* [W. y.].

212 by 128. 49 p. No title page. Title between two lines in first page.

GENERAL BUDGET OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE for the fiscal year 1898 to 1899. Caracas, *Federation Print. Office*, [W. y.]

212 by 130. 86 p. Printed without Tit. page.

GENERAL BUDGET OF PUBLIC REVENUE
AND EXPENDITURE of the fiscal year 1899 to 1900.
Caracas, Federation Print. Office. [W. y.]

215 by 130. 69 p. No Title Page.

BUDGET OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE until the meeting of the next "Constituent".
Caracas, Nat. Print. Office, 1900.

212 by 130. 64 p. No Title Page.

GENERAL BUDGET OF PUBLIC REVENUE
AND EXPENDITURE for the fiscal period of 1901 to
1902. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Office,*
[W. y.]

212 by 130. 64 p. No Title Page.

BUDGET LAW OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE (Sanctioned by the National Congress
in 1905). *Caracas, Nat. Print. Office, 1905.*

212 by 128. 71 p.

BUDGET LAW OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of., 1909.*

212 by 135. 65 p.

BUDGET LAW OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE. 1910 to 1911. *Caracas, Nat. Print.*
Of., 1910.

212 by 130. 73 p.

BUDGET LAW OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE. 1911 to 1912. *Caracas, Nat. Print.*
Of., 1911.

212 by 130. 75 p.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

BUDGET LAW OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE. 1912 to 1913. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of., [W. y.]*

212 by 135. 79 p.

Tit. P. equal to first page.

BUDGET LAW OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE. 1913 to 1914. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off., 1913.*

212 by 130. 106 p.

NATIONAL BUDGET OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE. 1914 to 1915. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Nat. Print. Office, 1914.*

212 by 130. 99 p.

NATIONAL BUDGET LAW OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE. 1923 to 1924. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of., [1923].*

205 by 127. 141 p.

Sanctioned on June 18, 1923. Ordered to be enforced by General Juan Vicente Gomez on June 19, 1923. Countersigned by Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance.

NATIONAL BUDGET LAW OF PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE. 1924 to 1925. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of., [1924].*

205 by 127. 146 p.

Sanctioned on June 19, 1924. Ordered to be enforced by General Juan Vicente Gomez on the 21st. of the same month. Countersigned by Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance.

FINANCE CODES

CODE OF FINANCE. Official Edition. [Vignette] Caracas, *Espinal Bros.* [1867].

188 by 102. 77 p. and 4 p. w. n.

The Tit. P. reads as follows: *Code of Finance, Customs laws, Official Edition.* [Vignette] Caracas, *Espinal Print. Of.* 1867.

Thirteen Laws form this Code. The order of *enforcement* is dated May 25, 1867.

CODE OF FINANCE sanctioned by General Guzman Blanco, Provisional President of the Republic and General in Chief of its Army. Official Edition. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Office, 1873.*

212 by 131. 156 and 2 p. w. n. of errata and 12 and 18 and 16 wrongly numbered and 6 p. likewise and 14 p. likewise and 4 p.

Copy examined has no title page. This *Code* is dated February 20, 1873 and derogated that of 1867.

CODE OF FINANCE sanctioned by General Guzman Blanco, Provisional President of the Republic and General in Chief of its Army. Second Official Edition. *Caracas, Federation Print. Office, 1874.*

212 by 125. 294 p.

The copy examined has no Tit. P. A Resolution of Congress passed on June 1st., 1874 authorized the National Executive to make this second edition of the *Code* of 1873, including the reformed Laws and excluding those derogated.

CODE OF FINANCE sanctioned by General Guzman Blanco, Provisional President of the Republic and General in

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Chief of its Armies. Third Official Edition. *Caracas, Fed. Print. Of. of Lino Duarte Level, 1877.*

218 by 127. 309 p. and 2 p. w. n. of index. By printing error page 309 is numbered 295.

The copy examined at the Department of Fomento has no Tit. P. This edition, the third on of the *Code of 1873* includes the laws reformed and those sanctioned after the 1874 edition.

CODE OF FINANCE sanctioned by General Guzman Blanco, President of the Republic of the United States of Venezuela. Fourth Official Edition. *Caracas, "El Monitor" Print. Of., 1884.*

212 by 128. 367 p.

Copy examined at Nat. Lib. has no Tit. P. This edition was made in accordance with the law of June 25, 1884 and by Executive Resolution of August 1st. of the same year. It contains all the alterations suffered by the *Code of 1873*.

CODE OF FINANCE sanctioned by the Congress of the United States of Venezuela in its ordinary sessions of 1899. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic] *Caracas, Comercio Print. Off., 1899.*

205 by 128. 384 p.

This *Code* sanctioned on May 20, of said year repealed that of 1873 whose last edition was made in 1884.

CODE OF FINANCE sanctioned by the Congress of the United States of Venezuela in its ordinary sessions of 1912. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterpr., 1912.*

200 by 110. 306 p.

This *Code* decreed on May 29, 1912 and ordered to be enforced on June 13 of the same year repealed that of 1899. In its turn the *Code of 1912* was repealed by the *Organic Law of National Exchequer*, sanctioned in 1918.

TARIFFS OF IMPORT DUTIES
AND OTHER OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS
ON THE MATTER

NOTICE

The *Tariffs of import duties* decreed in 1830, 1834, 1838, 1856, 1873, 1881 and May 1905 seem to have been published in pamphlet form, but could not be found. Therefore when referring to them in order to make easier their perusal, in each case the official source is indicated:- Code of Finance or Volume of the *Compilation of Laws and Decrees* where to find them.

1830

After the separation of Venezuela from the Republic of Colombia, the first *Law of Importation* was decreed by the Constituent Congress of 1830 on October 12; a law whose fulfilment was enforced by General Paez on the 14th. of the same month and was countersigned by Mr. Santos Michelena, Secretary of State in the Department of Finance. "It repealed the decrees of March 9, 1827 and March 8, 1829 which established the import duties, tariff, rules for discharging ships, inspection of imported shipments and regarding seizures: that of December 23, 1828 regarding the acceptance of the one eighth part of import dues in Vouchers of the floating Debt: of the same date regarding the condition which the bondsmen must have who are surety for the import duties: that of November 23, 1826 which suppresses the frauds against the Public

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Exchequer: that of August 6, 1829 regarding free trade of Margarita, and all the laws which may be contrary to the present law".

This Law is published in number 294 of the *Extraordinary Government Gazette* of this city of October 30, 1830.

1834

The former law of 1830 was repealed by the *Law of Importation* decreed by Congress on May 8, 1834. The promulgation of this law was directed by Dr. Andres Narvarte on the 12th., of the same month and was countersigned by P. P. Diaz, Secretary of Finance. It was published in the *Gazette of Venezuela* Number 176 of May 24, 1834.

1838

Congress of 1838 decreed on April 28, a *Tariff for the collection of the import duties* which was put in force by General Soublette on May 4 following and was countersigned by Guillermo Smith as Secretary of Finance.

This document repeals the Law of 1834 and was published in the numbers 387 to 393 of the *Gazette of Venezuela*, corresponding to the Sundays 17 and 24 of June, 1st., 8, 15, 22, and 29 of July 1838.

1841

TARIFF of IMPORT DUTIES of May 7, 1841.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

(Reforming that of April 28, 1838). *Caracas, V. Espinal, [1841].*

175 by 95. 38 p.

Decreed by Congress on April 29, 1841 and enforced on May 7 following by General Paez. Countersigned by Guillermo Smith, Secretary of Finance. It repeals the *Tariff* of April 28, 1838.

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES in force in 1846.
[Vignete]. *Caracas, Valentín Espinal, 1846.*

183 by 95. 38 p.

This pamphlet is a reproduction of the *Tariff* of 1841.

1856

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with all the corrections which were made by Executive Resolution of February 1, 1857. *Caracas, J. M. Soriano, 1857.*

180 by 95. 80 p.

Decreed by General Jose Tadeo Monagas by virtue of a Legislative Act of September 20, 1856. This *Tariff* is dated November 8 of said year and was countersigned by Jacinto Gutierrez, Secretary of State in the Department of Finance. It repeals the former of May 7, 1841 and the other laws contrary to said decree.

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with all the alterations made by the Executive Resolution of February first 1857.
[Vignette]. *Caracas, J. M. Soriano, 1863.*

182 by 100. 71 p.

A reprint of the *Tariff* of November 8, 1856 to which foregoing number refers.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1859

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES formed by the Executive Power making use of the authority granted by the National Convention by Decree of November 29, 1858. New official edition with the corrections made by Resolution of June 4, 1859. [At the beginning of the title:] Republic of Venezuela. [Valencia] M. M. Zarzamendi, editor, 1859.

172 by 93. 67 p.

Decreed by General Julian Castro on December 27, 1858 and countersigned by Miguel Herrera, Secretary of State in the Department of Finance. It repeals the Tariff of November 8, 1856.

REPERTORY AND INDEX OF THE TARIFF for the collection of Customs Duties. [Vignette]. Caracas, J. M. Soriano, 1859.

175 by 95. 44 p.

This publication appears to be an official publication, but does not mention it.

1867

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES arranged according to the decimal metric system. Official Edition. Caracas, Print. Off. of the United States of Venezuela, 1868.

180 by 100. 72 p. The second page of the back title page is printed.

Decreed by Congress on May 12, 1867 and enforced by General Miguel Gil on the 25th. of the same month. Countersigned by Lucio Pulido, Secretary of Finance. It repeals "all former laws and decrees about Tariff".

By Executive Resolution of October 17, 1868 Citizen Bonifacio Coronado Millan was authorized to officially reprint this tariff.

1868-1869

A decree of the National Executive dated October 10, 1868 complements the law of 1867 regarding Export Duties. (*Compilation of laws and decrees*: vol. IV p. 748-9).

The former law was repealed by decree of May 18, 1869, sanctioned by Congress a decree which was enforced by General Jose Ruperto Monagas on the same day and which was countersigned by Vicente Amengual, Minister of Finance. (*Compilation*; vol. IV p. 776-7).

1870

REPORT AND PROPOSED TARIFF submitted to the Minister of Finance by the Commission appointed to revise the tariff. *Caracas, Print. Of. of the U. S. of Venezuela*, 1870.

170 by 98. 24 p.

Tit. P. bordered. Doc. dated March 31, 1870. The Commission which submitted the report was composed of Messrs. M. Martin, Jose D. Landaeta and J. G. Villafañe.

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES arranged according to the decimal metric system. Official Edition. *Caracas, Liberal Print. Of.*, 1870.

180 by 100. 93 p. and 2 p. w. n. of errata.

Decreed by General Jose Ignacio Pulido, provisional President on October 14, 1870 and countersigned by Angel M. Alamo, Minister of Finance. It repeals the *Tariff* of May 25, 1867 and the decree of May 7, 1870.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

CASANOVA (Pascual) and Marceliano MARTIN. Compendium of the laws concerning the Custom Houses, Navigation and domestic and foreign Commerce of the Republic. With a commented and explained Tariff. *Caracas, Evaristo Fombona, 1873.*

180 by 102. 87 p. and 1 table.

The authors who are Members of the Commission which drew up the Code of Finance, made this publication so that it might "fill deficiencies and make clear the doubtful points which it contains".

RAZETTI (Luis). Proposed Tariff of Import Duties by the system of gross weight without tare, drawn up by— —, by direction of the Government submitted to the importers of Venezuela to be examined by them. Accompanied by several comments concerning some fiscal laws of the Code of Finance now in force. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of., 1873.*

178 by 100. 304 p.

1873

Law XX of the Code of Finance decreed by General Guzman Blanco on February 20, 1873 and countersigned by Santiago Goiticoa, Minister of Finance, includes the *Tariff of import duties* of said year. It repealed the former of 1870.

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES. Taken from the second official edition of the code of Finance. [Arms of the Republics]. *Caracas, Federal Print. Of., 1874.*

211 by 126. 66 p.

This pamphlet with bordered Tit. P. reproduces completely the Law XXII of the Code of Finance of 1873.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES. Taken from the third official edition of the Code of Finance. *Caracas, Federal Print. Of., 1877.*

213 by 126. 67 p.

Reproduction of Law XXII of the Code of Finance sanctioned in 1873.

1874

RAZETTI (Luis). Proposed Tariff of import duties by the system of gross weight without tare Drawn up and submitted by — —. To the Illustrious American Regenerator of Venezuela, General Antonio Guzman Blanco, Constitutional President of the Republic. *Caracas, Espinal & Sons, 1874.*

180 by 100. 109 p. and 2 p. w. n. of errata.

LANDAETA (Jose Dolores). Proposed Law of Tariff by the system of the gross weight, published in *La Opinion Nacional*, Number 1435 and corrected by its author. *Maracaibo, J. R. Henriquez, [1874].*

168 by 94. 15 p.

Bordered Tit. P. Signed at Maracaibo, Feb. 20, 1874.

1881

Congress in its sessions of 1881 decreed on May 20, a new Tariff, which was enforced by General Guzman Blanco on the 28th., of the same month and countersigned by Juan Pablo Rojas Paul as Minister of Finance. It repeals Law

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

XXII of the Code of Finance and was published in the *Official Gazette* Number 2387 of June 3, 1881.

By a Resolution of the Department of Finance of July 1st. of the same year it was directed to form an index or commentary of the above mentioned Tariff Law; an alphabetic index which was published in the extraordinary number of the *Official Gazette* of July 18, 1881 and later published apart as seen by the following document.

ALPHABETIC INDEX OF THE TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES formed by the Department of Finance. Official Edition. *Caracas, "El Monitor"*, 1881.

215 by 138. 46 p.

Published by Resolution of July 1, 1881 signed by Rojas Paul. The Tit. P. reads: *Alphabetic Index of the Tariff of Import Duties*.

1883

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with an alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Editorial Print. Of. J. M. Alas*, 1884.

172 by 101. 86 p.

Decreed by Gen. Guzman Blanco on December 31, 1883 and countersigned by Juan Pablo Rojas Paul, Minister of Finance. It repeals the *Tariff of May 28, 1881*. Tit. P. bordered. Edited by Rojas Bros. Booksellers-Editors of Caracas by authority of the Federal Executive.

ALPHABETIC INDEX OF THE TARIFF OF

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

IMPORT DUTIES formed in obeyance of the Resolution of the Minister of Finance, dated January 1, 1884. *Caracas, "La Opinion Nacional", 1884.*

218 by 130. 36 p. This Resolution is signed by Rojas Paul.

1889

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Print. & Lit. Of. of the Nat. Govt., 1889.*

170 by 102. 103 p.

Decreed by Dr. Rojas Paul on March 28, 1889 and countersigned by Jose Maria Lares, Minister of Finance. It repeals the *Tariff of December 31, 1883.*

1893

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Of., 1893.*

173 by 103. 87 p.

Decreed by Gen. Joaquin Crespo on April 1, 1893 and countersigned by Jose Antonio Velutini, Minister of Finance. It repeals the *Tariff of March 28, 1889.*

1896

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Of., 1896.*

170 by 102. 86 p.

Decreed by Gen. Joaquin Crespo on June 30, 1896 and countersigned by H. Perez Brito, Minister of Finance. It repeals the *Tariff of April first 1893.*

Has no Tit. P.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

1897

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Modern Print. Off.*, 1897.

168 by 103. 93 p.

Decreed by Congress on May 19, 1897 and enforced by Gen. Joaquin Crespo on the 21st. of the same month. Countersigned by Claudio Bruzual Serra, Minister of Finance. It repeals the *Tariff of June 30, 1896*.

1899

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of.*, 1899.

173 by 102. 95 p.

Decreed by Congress on May 19, 1899 and enforced by Gen. Ignacio Andrade, on May 31, 1899. Countersigned by Santos Escobar, Minister of Finance. No mention made of law or decree repealing the *Tariff*.

A decree of Gen. Cipriano Castro dated November 7, 1899, countersigned by Ramon Tello Mendoza, Minister of Finance and Public Credit and published in the *Official Gazette* number 7.770 of the same day directs that "the Custom Houses of the Republic shall continue to collect the import duties on foreign goods imported from abroad according to the Tariff in force until August 31 last".

1900

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

index. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Of.*, 1900.

168 by 95. 103 p.

Decreed by Gen. Cipriano Castro on October 10, 1900 and countersigned by Ramon Tello Mendoza, Minister of Finance and Public Credit. It repeals the Executive Decree of November 7, 1899 which directed to consider in force the *Tariff* of 1897.

1902

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of.*, 1902.

168 by 102. 101 p.

Decreed by Congress on May 10, 1902 and enforced by Gen. Cipriano Castro on the 19th. of the same month. Countersigned by Ramon Tello Mendoza, Minister of Finance and Public Credit. It repeals the *Tariff* of October 10, 1900.

1905

On May 20, 1905 Gen. Cipriano Castro decreed a new *Tariff* which was countersigned by Jose Cecilio de Castro, Minister of Finance and Public Credit. This decree repeals the Law of May 19, 1902 on the subject and which is reproduced in pages 98 to 117 of vol. XXVIII, edition of 1912 of the *Compilation of Laws and Decrees of Venezuela*.

1905

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of.*, 1905.

170 by 100. 126 p.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Decreed by Congress on August 14, of the same year and enforced by Gen. Cipriano Castro on the 19th. of the same month. Countersigned by Jose Cecilio de Castro, Minister of Finance and Public Credit. It repeals the *Tariff* of May 20, 1905 and all other Executive Resolutions on the subject contrary to the mentioned Law.

1908

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1908.

170 by 102. 131 p.

Decreed by Gen. Cipriano Castro on January 11, 1908 and countersigned by Arnaldo Morales, Minister of Finance. It repeals the *Tariff* of August 14, 1905.

1910

DECREE regarding TARIFF REFORMS and General Index of the Tariff of import duties. Official Edition. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of.*, 1910.

170 by 100. 120 p. of which the uneven numbers from 5 to 37 inclusive are blank pages meant for *remarks*; the word is printed at the beginning of each of said pages.

The decree is dated on January 19, 1910, is signed by General Juan Vicente Gomez and countersigned by Abel Santos, Minister of Finance and Public Credit. It repeals the numbers of the foregoing *Tariff* to which the decree refers and all other former laws on the subject.

RESOLUTION concerning APPRAISEMENT of WINES and instructions and Tables to compute the percentage of alcohol in volume contained in those which are imported in the country. Official Edition. [At the beginning of

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

page:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1910.

180 by. 110. 13 p. w. n. and 3 blank pages.

Dated September 24, 1910 and signed by Antônio Pimentel.

1911

TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES and alphabetic index. Official Edition. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of.*, 1911.

190 by 102. 157 p. The uneven numbers from 5 to 67 are blank, not numbered.

Decreed by General Juan Vicente Gómez on April 10, 1911 and countersigned by Antonio Pimentel, Minister of Finance and Public Credit.

1912

LAW OF THE TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES with its alphabetic index. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Of.*, 1913.

170 by 103. 141 p.; those from 5 to 41 are devoted to *remarks*.

Decreed by Congress on June 15, 1912 and enforced by General Juan Vicente Gómez on July 1st. of the same year. Countersigned by Manuel Porras E., Minister of Finance and Public Credit. It repeals the *Tariff* of April 10, 1911.

The edition examined was made by Resolution of February 7, 1913 signed by Roman Cardenas, Minister of Finance and Public Credit.

1915

LAW OF THE TARIFF OF IMPORT DUTIES.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 1,50. *Caracas, Americana Print. Of., 1915.*

190 by 113. iv and 120 and 54 p. for *remarks* the opposite pages 2 to 54 of the Vol.

Decreed by Congress on June 10, 1915 and enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on the 16th. of the same month. Countersigned by Roman Cardenas, Minister of Finance. It repeals the *Tariff* of July 1, 1912.

The second edition of this law was printed at the *Lit. del Comercio* in 1919. The volume has 4 p. w. n. and 131 and 60 blk. pp. for *remarks* and 1 p. w. n. and 1 blk. The third edition was made in 1921 at the *Emp. El Cojo* and contains 4 p. w. n. and 152 and 64 blk. pp. for *remarks*.

The *Tariff* of 1915 translated into the English language was edited at the *Gutenberg Print. Of.* in 1922 in a pamphlet of 2 p. w. n. and 99 p. having as title: *Customs Tariff of Venezuela. April, 1922.*

1924

LAW OF THE TARIFF OF IMPORTATION OF JULY 4, 1924. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 2,50. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off., 1924.*

190 by 113. 151 and 75 blk. pp. for *remarks* opposite pages 12 to 75 of the volume.

Law decreed by Congress on July 2, 1924 and enforced by General Juan Vicente Gomez on the 4th. of the same month. Countersigned by Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance. It repeals the Tariff Law of June 16, 1915.

TRADE AND MARITIME STATISTICS

FIRST ACTS OF THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE regarding the statistics of Venezuela. Official Edition. [Vignette] having as a heading: *Nosce te ipsum. Caracas, Nat. Print. Off., A. J. Ponte, Editor, 1871.*

250 by 155. 43 p. and 28 models on separate pages.

[LEVEL (Andres Aurelio)]. Report of the Director General of Statistics to the National Executive in 1874. Caracas, "La Opinion Nacional", 1874.

220 by 131. 346 p.

Report submitted to the President of the Republic through the organ of the Departments of the Interior and Justice. Contains the work of the Section concerning fiscal statistics since the establishment of the Republic and principally during the year 1873.

TRADE STATISTICS OF VENEZUELA formed by direction of the Great Democrat, General Francisco L. Alcantara, President of the Republic. Fiscal year of 1875 to 1876. Caracas, Nat. Print. Of., 1877.

220 by 132. 149 p.

There is no Title page to the copy examined at the Nat. Lib. Although corresponding to the Fomento Department this book is taken into consideration here because all the data it contains refer to the import and export trade through the Custom Houses of the Republic during said fiscal year of 1877.

RULES REGARDING TRADE AND MARITIME STATISTICS. Instructions and models accepted by direction of the National Executive for the statistics on trade, shipping and duty-free goods imported in the Custom Houses of the Republic. Official Edition. [At begining of title:]

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1901.

212 by 128. 15 p. Doc. without date signed R. Tello Mendoza.

TRADE STATISTICS .Fiscal year of 1902 to 1903.
[At beginning of title, between two long lines, Arms of the Republic and:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance and Public Credit.

390 by 265. 96 p. numb. w. analogy.

This volume is formed of copies of extraordinary numbers of the *Official Gazette* of November 19 and 26, December 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 1904 and January 7, 14, 21 and 28, February 4, 11, 18 and 25, March 4, 11, 18 and 25 and April 1, 8, 15 and 22, 1905.

TRADE STATISTICS. Fiscal year 1903 to 1904.
[On top Arms of the Republic and] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance and Public Credit.

390 by 265. 108 p. numbered w. analogy.

This pamphlet is formed of copies of extraordinary numbers of the *Official Gazette* corresponding to April 29, May 6, 13, 20, June 3, 10, 17, 24; 1, 8, 15, 24, 29 July, 5 and 12 August, 16, 23, 30 of September, 7, 14, 21, 27 of October and 4, 11 and 18 of November 1905.

TRADE AND MARITIME STATISTICS. Fiscal year of 1905 to 1906. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Of.*, 1906.

280 by 180. 257 p.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

TRADE AND MARITIME STATISTICS. First six months of the fiscal year of 1906 to 1907. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance and Public Credit [and Arms of the Republic.] *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1907.

278 by 180. 151 p.

TRADE AND MARITIME STATISTICS. Second six months of the fiscal year of 1906 to 1907. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance and Public Credit [and Arms of the Republic.] *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1908.

275 by 180. 155 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. First six months of the fiscal year of 1907 to 1908. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance and Public Credit [and Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1908.

275 by 180. 160 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. Second six months of the fiscal year of 1907 to 1908. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance and Public Credit [and Arms of the Republic.] *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1908.

275 by 180. 150 p.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. First six months of the fiscal year of 1908 to 1909. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. [and Arms of the Republic.] *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1909.

275 by 180. 137 p.

TRADE AND MARITIME STATISTICS. Second six months of the fiscal year of 1908 to 1909. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance and Public Credit [and Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1909.

275 by 180. 145 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. First six months of the fiscal year of 1909 to 1910. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1910.

275 by 180. 2 p. w. n. and 156 p.

Besides foregoing title, the Tit. P. within a border has a *Summary* of the volume.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. Six months of the fiscal year of 1909 to 1910. [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1910.

275 by 180. 2 p. w. n. and 154 p.

Besides title the corresponding *Summary* of the volume.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. First six months of the fiscal year of 1910 to 1911. (July to December 1910). [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Of.*, 1911.

275 by 180. 2 p. w. n. and 155 p.

Besides title the corresponding *Summary* of the volume.

TRADE AND MARITIME STATISTICS. Second six months of the fiscal year of 1910 to 1911. (January to June 1911). [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Of.*, 1911.

275 by 180. 2 p. w. n. and 150 p. Tit. P. within a border and the *Summary* of the volume.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. First six months of the fiscal year 1911 to 1912. (July to December 1911). [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Of.*, 1912.

275 by 180. 2 p. w. n. and 135 p.

Besides title within a border the *Summary* of the volume.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. Second six months of the fiscal year of 1911 to 1912. (January to June 1912. [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Of.*, 1912.

275 by 180. 2 p. w. n. and 137 p.

Besides Title P. the *Summary* of the volume within rectangular border.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. First six months of fiscal year of 1912 to 1913. (July to December 1912). [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance. *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1913.

275 by 175. 2 p. w. n. and 161 p.

Besides Tit. P. the *Summary* within a rectangular border.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. Second six months of the fiscal year of 1912 to 1913. (January to June 1913). [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance. *Caracas, Bolívar Print. Of.*, 1913.

270 by 180. 2 p. w. n. and 229 p.

The *Summary* of the volume within a rectangular border.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS corresponding to the six months of July to December 1913. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. Arms of the Republic and Department of Finance. *Caracas, Lit. & Tip. del Comercio*, 1914.

273 by 178. 2 p. w. n. and 205 p.

Besides Tit. P. the *Summary* of the volume within border and: *Value 3 Bolivars.*

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS, for the six months from January to June 1914. [On top:] United

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance. *Caracas, Lit. & Tip. del Comercio*, 1914.

275 by 180. 213 p.

Besides Title the *Summary* of the volume and: *Value 3 Bolivars.*

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS, for the six months of July to December 1914. [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1915.

275 by 178. 207 p.

Besides Title the *Summary* of the volume and: *Value 3 Bolivars.*

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of January to June 1915. [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1915.

273 by 178. 166 p.

Besides the Title P. the *Summary* of Vol. and: *Value 3 Bolivars.*

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of July to December 1915. [On top:] United States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1916.

275 by 180. 187 p.

Besides Title the *Summary* and: *Value 3 Bolivars.*

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of January to June 1916. [On top:] United

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

States of Venezuela [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1916.*

273 by 178. 190 p.

Besides Title the *Summary* of the volume and: *Value 3 Bolivars.*

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of July to December 1916. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1917.*

273 by 180. 113 p.

Besides title *Summary* and: *Value 3 Bolivars.*

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of January to June 1917. [On top of title:] United States of Venezuela. [Arms of the Republic and] Department of Finance. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1918.*

273 by 180. 86 p.

Besides the title within a rectangular border *Summary* of vol. *Value 3 Bolivars.*

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS. Six months from July to December, 1917. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value B 4,50. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1918.*

273 by 180. 129 p.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of January to June 1918. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 4,50. Caracas, *El Cojo Enterprise*, 1919.

273 by 180. 113 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of July to December 1918. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 4,50. Caracas, *El Cojo Enterprise*, 1919.

273 by 180. 117 p. and a slip of paper with *errata*.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of January to June 1919. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 5. Caracas, *Americana Print. Off.*, 1920.

273 by 180. 119 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of July to December 1919. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 5. Caracas, *El Cojo Enterprise*, 1921.

273 by 180. 133 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

the six months of January to June 1920. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 5. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1921.

270 by 195. 2 p. w. n. and 141 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of July to December 1920. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 5. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1921.

270 by 195. 2 p. w. n. and 163 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of January to June 1921. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 5. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1922.

270 by 195. 2 p. w. n. and 137 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of July to December 1921. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top of title:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 5. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1922.

270 by 195. 2 p. w. n. and 143 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of January to June 1922. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top of title:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 5. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1923.

270 by 195. 2 p. w. n. and 155 p.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of July to December 1922. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top:] United States of Venezuela, Department of Finance. Value: B 5. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1924.

270 by 195. 3 p. w. n. and 1 blk. and 173 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of January to June 1923. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top of page:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 5. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1924.

270 by 195. 5 p. w. n. and 1 blk. and 165 p.

TRADE AND MERCANTILE STATISTICS for the six months of July to December 1923. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic and on top of page] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Value: B 5. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1924.

270 by 195. 173 p.

LAWS, DECREES, RESOLUTIONS, REGULATIONS, REPORTS, ETC.

INTERNATIONAL HIGH COMMISSION. Reports of the Venezuelan Section, 1916. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Off.*, 1916.

190 by 112. xii and 104 p. and 2 blk.

Contains part of the work performed by the Venezuelan Section. The volume includes eight reports concerning different topics and a preliminary statement.

INTERNATIONAL HIGH COMMISSION OF UNIFORM LEGISLATION. Venezuelan Section. Report

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

of Dr. Carlos F. Grisanti, Venezuelan Delegate to the Buenos Aires Conference. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1916.*

172 by 110. 52 p. and 1 w. n. and 1 blk.

INTERNATIONAL HIGH COMMISSION. Venezuelan Section. 1919. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1919.*

171 by 110. 56 p. and 2 blk.

Several themes worked out according to the provisional Program of Second Pan American Financial Congress which was to meet in Washington, D. C. in January 1920 are included in this volume.

INTERAMERICAN HIGH COMMISSION. Venezuelan Section. Memorandum regarding the application of the Customs Regulations of Venezuela, especially with reference to North American Commerce. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, [1920].*

169 by 101. 38 p. and 2 blk.

This pamphlet was translated into the English language by direction of said Commission and published at the same Printing Office in 1920. viz.:

169 by 101. 39 p.

INTERAMERICAN HIGH COMMISSION. Venezuelan Section. Exchange in Venezuela. A paper approved by the Section at the same extraordinary session held on December 21, 1921 to be submitted to the Central Executive Board. *Caracas, "Cultura Venezolana" Print. Off., [1921].*

167 by 101. 39 p. and 2 illustrations.

[BLASCO (Ricardo R.)]. Report addressed by the Director General of the Post Office to the Honorable the Secretary of Finance, 1853. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas*,

165 by 90. 12 p. Doc dated November 15, 1853.

DECREE ON RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING THE SALT WORKS OF THE REPUBLIC. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, [W. y.]

170 by 100. 21 p. Decree dated January 27, 1909.

DOCUMENTS concerning the establishment of the *Bank of Venezuela*. [Vignette]. *Caracas, Steam Print. Off. of E. Lopez*, 1861.

170 by 93. 180 p.

Tit. P. lacking in copy examined at Dep. of Finance. Contains important documents of said Department.

INSTRUCTIONS AND MODELS drawn up according to Article 20 of Decree of December 19, 1914 which assigns to the Minister of Finance the Administration of several branches of the National Revenue. [Arms of the Republic] and at top of page: United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1915.

218 by 135. 39 p.

INSTRUCTIONS AND MODELS for the Custom House Accounting established according to Decree of December 19, 1914 regarding the collection of the Customs

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Revenue. [Arms of the Republic and at the beginning of title:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1914.

218 by 135. 2 p. w. n. and 70 p.

INSTRUCTIONS AND MODELS for the services of the Administration, Accounting and Collecting of the Liquor Revenue. [Arms of the Republic and at commencement of title:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. Section of the Internal Revenue. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise*, 1917.

191 by 136. xix p. and 1 blk. and 161 p. of *Models*.

INSTRUCTIONS AND MODELS for the Accounting of National Estate, Revenue, Expenditure and Subsidiary Bank of the Treasury. [Arms of the Republic and at beginning of title:] United States of Venezuela. General Finance Accounting. *Caracas, Americana Prit. Off.*, 1919.

193 by 127. 234 p. and. 1 w. n. and 1 blk.

CUSTOM HOUSE LAW, sanctioned by the National Congress during its ordinary sessions of 1918. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 1,25. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1918.

170 by 84. iii p. and 1 blk. and 168 p.

Sanctioned on June 10, 1918. Enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on the 20eth. of the same month. Countersigned by Roman Cardenas, as Minister of Finance.

CUSTOM HOUSE LAW sanctioned by the National Congress during its ordinary sessions of 1918. Official Edition.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

[Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 1,25. *Caracas, Lit. del Comercio, 1923.*

168 by 84. iii p. and 1 blk. and 168 p.

Second edition of the Law referred to, edition: 1 thousand copies, by Resolution of October 29, 1923 signed by Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance.

LAW OF JUNE 16, 1865, concerning the PUBLIC CREDIT and Decree on regulations of the National Executive [Vignette] Official Edition. *Caracas, V. Espinal & Sons, [W. y.]*

167 by 93. 39 p.

LAW ON PUBLIC CREDIT, sanctioned by the National Congress in 1915. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1915.*

168 by 101. 20 p.

Sanctioned June 10, 1915. Enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on the 11th. of the same month. Countersigned by Roman Cardenas, as Minister of Finance.

LAW ON PUBLIC CREDIT sanctioned by the National Congress in 1915. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1920.*

168 by 101. 20 p.

Second edition of the above referred Law; edition: one thousand copies by Resolution of December 1, 1920, signed by Roman Cardenas, as Minister of Finance.

LAW ON PUBLIC CREDIT sanctioned by the National Congress in 1923. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Modern Print. Off., 1923.*

175 by 101. 21 p. and 3 blk.

Sanctioned May 29, 1923, enforced by General Juan Vicente Gomez on June 15 following. Countersigned by Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance. It repeals law of June 15, 1915.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

NATIONAL STAMPED PAPER TAX LAW
sanctioned by the National Congress during its ordinary sessions of 1918. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 0,50. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1918.

170 by 85. 15 p.

Sanctioned on June 10, 1918, enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos and countersigned by Roman Cardenas as Minister of Finance.

NATIONAL STAMPS TAX LAW sanctioned by the National Congress in 1915. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise*, 1916.

168 by 101. 15 p.

Sanctioned on June 22, 1915, enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on the 28th. of the same month and countersigned by Roman Cardenas as Minister of Finance. Edition: ten thousand copies.

LAW OF THE NATIONAL STAMP REVENUE, sanctioned by the National Congress in 1923. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1923.

175 by 101. 64 p.

Sanctioned on June 25, 1923; enforced by General Juan Vicente Gomez on July 2 following, and countersigned by Melchor Centeno Graü as Minister of Finance. It repeals the Law on the National Stamp Revenue of June 28, 1915. Edition: ten thousand copies.

LAW regarding the DEPARTMENTS. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, "Cosmos" Print. Off.*, 1922.

168 by 101. 10 p. and 2 blk.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Sanctioned on July 1, 1922; enforced by General Juan Vicente Gomez, and countersigned by all the Ministers.

LAW, DECREE AND RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING THE LIQUOR REVENUE. Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1910.

170 by 85. 17 p.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE NATIONAL EXCHEQUER. Sanctioned by the National Congress during its ordinary sessions of 1918. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 1. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1918.

170 by 84. 123 p.

Sanctioned on May 28, 1918, enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on June 4, following and countersigned by all the Ministers of the Federal Executive. It repeals the Code of Finance of June 13, 1912.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE NATIONAL EXCHEQUER. Sanctioned by the National Congress during its ordinary sessions of 1918. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 1. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1924.

176 by 93. 123 p.

New edition of the above mentioned law of one thousand copies according to Resolution of November 1, 1924, signed by Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE LIQUOR REVENUE.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Sanctioned by the National Congress in 1915. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1915.*

167 by 101. 47 p.

Sanctioned on June 12, 1915, enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on the 19th. of the same month and countersigned by Roman Cardenas as Minister of Finance. It repeals the Law regarding the Tobacco and Liquor Revenue of May 5, 1904.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE LIQUOR REVENUE.

Sanctioned by the National Congress in 1915. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 0,50. *Caracas, Vargas Print. Off., 1922.*

177 by 101. 42 p. and 2 blk.

Second edition of the above referred law of one thousand copies, by Resolution of September 25, 1922 signed Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE LIQUOR REVENUE.

Sanctioned by the National Congress in 1924. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 0,50. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off., 1924.*

176 by 84. 68 p.

Sanctioned on June 12, 1924, enforced by General Juan Vicente Gomez on the 16th. of the same month and countersigned by Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance. It repeals the Law on the subject of June 19, 1915. Edition six thousand copies.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE NATIONAL CIGARETTE REVENUE. Sanctioned by the National Congress in 1915. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise, 1915.*

167 by 101. 21 p.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Sanctioned on June 12, 1915, enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on the 19th. of the same month and countersigned by Roman Cardenas as Minister of Finance. It repeals all the former laws, decrees and regulations on the subject. Edition 250 copies.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE NATIONAL CIGARETTE REVENUE. Sanctioned by the National Congress in 1918. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Bolivar Print. Off.*, 1922.

168 by 92. 28 p. and 3 blk.

Sanctioned on June 22, 1918, enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on the 24th. of the same month and countersigned by Roman Cardenas as Minister of Finance. It repeals the law on the subject of June 19, 1915.

Until August 1924 this is the only edition made of this law. Five hundred copies.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE SALT WORKS REVENUE. Sanctioned by the National Congress in its ordinary sessions of 1918. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 0,50. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1918.

170 by 84. 58 p.

Sanctioned on May 24, 1918, enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on June 5, following and countersigned by Roman Cardenas as Minister of Finance.

Edition: one thousand copies.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE SALT WORKS REVENUE. Sanctioned by the National Congress in its ordinary sessions in 1918. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 0,50. *Caracas, Vargas Print. Off.*, 1922.

172 by 101. 39 p. and 1 blk. and 1 w. n. and 1 blk.

Second edition of the mentioned law of five hundred copies by Resolution of September 25, 1922 signed by Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

ORGANIC LAW OF THE CONSULAR SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF VENEZUELA, with an appendix containing the Laws, Decrees and Resolutions of the subject. [Arms of the Requic]. Official Edition. Value: 1,75. *Caracas, Lit. del Com.*, 1921.

168 by 101. 94 p. and 2 blk.

Sanctioned on June 23, 1920, enforced by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos on the 26th. of the same month and countersigned by Esteban Gil Borges, as Minister of Foreign Relations and by Roman Cardenas, as Minister of Finance. It repeals the Law on the Consular Service of June 25, 1910.

Edition: two thousand copies.

ORGANIC LAW OF THE CONSULAR SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF VENEZUELA with an appendix containing the Laws, Decrees, and Resolutions on the subyect. [Arms of the Republic. Official Edition. Value: B 1,75. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1923.

167 by 101. 88 p.

Sanctioned on July 5, 1923, enforced by General Juan Vicente Gomez on the 15th. of the same month, countersigned by Pedro Itriago Chacin, as Minister of Foreign Relations and by Melchor Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance. This law repeals that of June 26, 1920. Edition: one thousand copies.

LAW REGARDING THE LIQUOR AND CIGAR REVENUE AND REGULATING DECREES. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1904.

170 by 85. 14 p.

This Law is dated May 2, 1904 and the Decrees are of October 22 and December 14 of the same year. Repealed.

LAW REGARDING SEVERAL BRANCHES OF THE NATIONAL REVENUE. Sanctioned by the National Congress in 1923. [Arms of the Republic]. Official Edition. Value: B 0,50. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, 1923.

180 by 101. 16 p.

Sanctioned on July 1, 1923, enforced by General Juan Vicente Gomez on the third of the same month and countersigned by Melchor Centeno Graü as Minister of Finance. It repeals the Law of June 28, 1915 and its Regulating Decree of August 9, 1916. Edition: one thousand copies.

[MORALES (Jose Manuel)]. Report of the Director General of the Post to the Secretary of State in the Department of Finance regarding the reforms to be made to the postal revenue and for the consideration of Honorable Legislative Chambers in their annual meeting of the present year of 1841. [Vignette]. *Caracas, Tomas Antero, 1841.*

169 by 95. 9 p.

Bordered Title P. Document dated January 15 of the same year.

OFFICES LEGALLY EMPOWERED to collect National funds in the Republic. January 1915. [On top:] United States of Venezuela. Department of Finance. *Caracas, Americana Print. Off.*, [W. y.].

184 by 110. 7 p. and 1 separate page with the *names of the Agents of the Bank of Venezuela authorized to collect national funds.*

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE SERVICE OF THE FISCAL SUPERINTENDENCIES OF THE STAPS REVENUE. Contains the Law of June 28, 1915,

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

regarding several Branches of the National Revenue; Regulating Decree of foregoing Law sanctioned on August 9, 1916; Organic Decree of the National Stamp and Stamped Paper Revenues; Decree of July 1, 1918 reorganizing the Fiscal Superintendencies of the Stamp Revenue and fixing its attributions and respective jurisdictions; Circular to the Fiscal Superintendencies of the Stamp Revenue, regarding the recording of Settled Duties with an annexed model. [Arms of the Republic]. *Caracas, Modern Print. Off.*, 1921.

167 by 92. 33 p. and 1 blk. and one model.

Edition five hundred copies made by Resolution of the Finance Department dated March 23, 1921.

RULES AND REGULATIONS ON POSTAL PACKAGES. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 0,20. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1918.

171 by 84. 16 p.

Edition: 1.500 copies, made according to Resolution of the Finance Department dated September 25, 1918 and signed by Roman Cardenas, as Minister of Finance.

These *Rules and Regulations* were decreed by Dr. V. Marquez Bustillos, Provisional President of the Republic on September 26, 1918 and countersigned by the Ministers of Finance and Fomento, Roman Cardenas and Gumersindo Torres, respectively.

RULES AND REGULATIONS ON POSTAL PACKAGES. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 0,20. *Caracas, Casa de Esp. Print. Off.*, 1923.

171 by 84. 16 p.

Edition: one thousand copies made by Resolution of the Finance

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

Department dated May 15, 1923 and signed by M. Centeno Graü as Minister of Finance. This Pamphlet is a re-edition of the *Regulations of 1918*.

SANITARY REGULATIONS OF THE NATIONAL PORTS. *Caracas, Nat. Print. & Lit. Off. of the Nat. Gov.* [W. y.].

167 by 103. 14 p. Decree of August 12, 1890.

REGULATIONS FOR THE SALT TAX FOR FISHERIES. Official Edition. [Arms of the Republic]. Value: B 0.15. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1923.

107 by 64. 24 p.

Decree issued by General Juan Vicente Gomez, Constitutional President of Venezuela on March 1, 1923, countersigned by M. Centeno Graü, as Minister of Finance.

Edition: two thousand copies, made by Resolution of the Finance Department, dated March 6, 1923.

NATIONAL STAMP LAW REVENUE. Legislative and executive provisions in force. *Caracas, El Cojo Enterprise*, 1914.

186 by 110. 37 and 2 p. w. n. of index.

RESOLUTION on appraisement of wines and instructions and tables to find out the percentage of alcohol in volume contained by those imported in the country. Official Edition. [On top of title:] United States of Venezuela, Department of Finance and Public Credit. *Caracas, Nat. Print. Off.*, 1910.

180 by 110. 14 p. w. n.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

VILLAFAÑE (J. G.). Report of the Inspector of the
Eastern Custom Houses.

171 by 102. 34 p.

The copy examined at the Finance Department has no Tit. page.
Document dated February 17, 1870.

INDEX

INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
<i>Signification of the Book</i>	
(Preface)	
The offering	VII
The criterion which guides us	IX
Historical Review and Statistics	XI
The Inter-American High Commission	XVIII
Bulletin of the Department	XIX
The Auxiliary Bank of the National Treasury	XIX
The Results	XXI
<i>Fiscal Organization</i>	
Custom House Revenue	16 — 20
Sea Salt Revenue	20 — 22
Liquor Revenue	22 — 23
Cigarette Revenue	24 — 25
Stamp Revenue—Stamped Paper Revenue	25 — 26
Inheritances Revenue	26 — 28
<i>Statement on the Public Credit of Venezuela.</i>	
Internal Credit	33 — 41
External Credit	42 — 51
<i>Inter-American High Commission.</i>	
Venezuelan Section	53 — 64
<i>Bibliography.—1830-1924.</i>	
Introductory data for the better comprehension of this Bibliography	67 — 76
Ministers and Secretaries of Finance of Venezuela before the creation of Greater Colombia	76 — 77
Secretaries and Ministers of Finance of Greater Colombia	77
Secretaries of Finance of the Republic of Venezuela from 1830-1863	77 — 78
Ministers of Finance of the United States of Venezuela from 1863-1924	79 — 81
Statements, Reports and Accounts from 1830-1924	82 — 119
Laws of the Budget 1865-1924	120—123
Finance Codes 1867-1912	124 — 125
Tariffs of Import Duties and other official publications on the matter 1830-1924	126 — 139
Trade and Maritime Statistics	140 — 150
Laws, Decrees, Resolutions, Regulations, Reports, etc. . .	150 — 163

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FISCAL LIFE OF VENEZUELA

PAGE

ILLUSTRATIONS

Picture of Simon Bolivar	III
Picture of Antonio Jose de Sucre	1
Palace of the Department of Finance	29
Collection of Venezuelan specie (coins) deposited in the National Treasury	64
New Types of Venezuelan Fiscal Stamps	64a
Specimen of the Venezuelan B 20 bank notes of the Bank of Venezuela (backed by gold)	64b
Specimen of the B 50 and B 100 bank notes of said Bank, etc. . .	64c
Specimen of the B 100 and B 500 bank notes of said Bank, etc. .	64d
Specimen of the B 500 and B 1.000 bank notes of said Bank, etc. .	64e

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